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Chamber exec accused of 'bullying' School Board

Chamber of Commerce President Dori Stone wouldn't share her organization's code of conduct, but she did say staffers are expected to "respect all of our members and business community, as well as all of the elected officials in Indian River County."

That includes, I assume, members of the county's School Board.

So, it'll be interesting to see how the Chamber's board of directors responds to the deplorable behavior of its business retention manager, John Corapi, who last week:

■ Disrupted a School Board meeting by knowingly taking an auxiliary seat reserved for board members, refused to vacate the chair when approached by sheriff's deputies and verbally antagonized the deputies as they physically

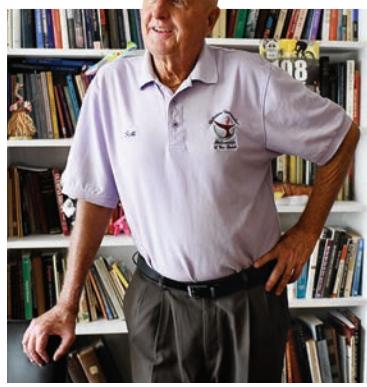
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Longtime minister Scott Alexander to retire at end of July

BY MICHELLE GENZ
Staff Writer

Scott Alexander knew there would be challenges 11 years ago when he took on leadership of the most socially liberal congregation in heavily conservative Indian River County.

But he never anticipated that in the year-and-a-half before his retirement at the end of July,



PHOTOS BY BRENDA AHEARN

he would find his flock in the midst of a deadly pandemic as well as a raucous political divide over how to end it.

Fortunately, only six of his congregation's 400 members came down with COVID-19, and the cases were not traced back to the church, where mask-wearing and social distancing were strictly followed.

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Hip resurfacing can be good alternative. P46

Republican women dispute Sheriff's bill for rally security. P11

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Worker shortage hits even companies like Piper

BY RAY MCNULTY
Staff Writer

It isn't just restaurants and retail shops that are having a hard time hiring enough workers in the wake of the pandemic.

The squeeze is being felt up and down supply chains and across industries, hitting companies as diverse as Cheney Brothers – a food service distributor whose trucks can be seen daily making their rounds – to

Piper Aircraft, which is trying to hire 75 to 100 new staffers to meet increasing production demand.

A small number of the Piper openings are for higher-paying and highly spe-

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Huge price jump for property on ocean and river

BY STEVEN M. THOMAS
Staff Writer

Oceanfront and waterfront real estate prices on the island have jumped dramatically over the past year and especially in recent months, as ever-increasing buyer demand runs up against historically low inventory.

An astonishing case in point is a .65-acre oceanfront lot in Riomer south of the golf course sold earlier this month by Cathy Curley, a broker associate at Dale Sorensen Real Estate, for \$5.5 million – more than double what the land was purchased for just last July.

Meanwhile, median single-family home prices in The Moorings, where many homes are waterfront, are up 40 percent so far this year compared to last year, from \$1.45 million

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Riverside Theatre to reopen earlier than planned with full 2022 season of hits

BY MARY SCHENKEL
Staff Writer

In another sign that things are getting better, the island's renowned playhouse, Riverside Theatre, announced it will reopen in January with a full season of big Broadway musicals and serious drama.

The theater, which went dark

last spring as the pandemic dramatically descended, had planned to reopen in fall 2022, but changed course as public health conditions improved more rapidly than expected.

Riverside Theatre marketing director Oscar Sales said discussions about an accelerated reopening began earlier

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Golf-A-Thon raises record \$450K for VNA & Hospice. P22

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My Vero

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escorted him to the lobby.

■ Angrily demanded – not politely requested or respectfully urged – that School Board members at the meeting obey his command to end the district's in-school mask mandate and stop enforcing social-distancing measures at public sessions, shouting at them, "Enough is enough!"

■ Encouraged local anti-maskers to attempt to intimidate School Board members, writing on the "We The People Indian River" group's Facebook page, "It's time to protest outside their homes and let them really hear and see we mean business and want change now!"

The social-media chatter didn't end there.

When someone in the Facebook group asked which School Board member should be targeted first, Corapi suggested Mara Schiff, writing, "I think Shiffy would be perfect! She is the most obvious to cave, I think. She can't handle the pressure."

Corapi's response prompted another group member to write that both Schiff and Chairman Brian Barefoot "need to go immediately," along with School Superintendent David Moore.

"It's bizarre," Moore said. "He's trying to bully the board."

Corapi nearly succeeded: Board member Jackie Rosario called for an unscheduled and unadvertised vote to immediately make mask wearing optional for the remainder of the school year, but the mandate remains in effect as Barefoot, Schiff and Peggy Jones rejected the motion.

The next day, upon learning of the disturbing Facebook posts, Moore's staff notified board members and the Sheriff's Office, which should be investigating Corapi's social-media activity to determine whether the threat is real and if it constitutes cyber-bullying.

In addition, Barefoot said he discussed Corapi's ugly antics with Sheriff Eric Flowers at a school district event later in the week.

"Flowers knows all about it," Barefoot said.

Perhaps so, but Corapi didn't seem to be overly concerned Friday, when he posted on his personal Facebook page video footage of his confrontation with the deputies.

When one of his Facebook friends wrote, "I thought you were going to get arrested," Corapi answered, "Nope. I had people in the background that had my back if it got to that point."

He didn't identify those people, but after being removed from the meeting, Corapi was heard saying outside the building that he was "good friends"

with Flowers and had done a radio show with him.

As of Monday, Flowers had not responded to my email asking about his agency's investigation of Corapi's conduct.

Barefoot, meanwhile, already had contacted Indian River Shores Police Chief Rich Rosell, who said last weekend he had alerted the private security force in the chairman's John's Island community and increased his agency's patrols there.

"If this guy knows people at John's Island, he might be able to get through the gate, but it would be a terrible idea if he did," Rosell said. "We're onto him."

That means Corapi has put himself on the radar of at least one local law enforcement agency – a distinction that tarnishes the Chamber's image and should embarrass its directors.

For her part, Stone said the Chamber would investigate Corapi's conduct and submit its findings to the organization's board of directors, which will determine his fate in accordance with its employment policies and code of conduct.

"I'm tempted to write a letter to the Chamber," Barefoot said, adding that he's not worried about his safety but has concerns for other board members because, "I think this guy is crazy enough to do something stupid."

Any thorough investigation should include a full review of the footage of Corapi's deportation at the School Board meeting – from his rude disruption of the proceedings to his defiant interaction with deputies, to his pseudo-tough rant from the podium.

"They were trying to create a ruckus," Moore said, referring to not only Corapi, but also former School Board member Tiffany Justice and some members of the anti-mask Moms For Liberty group she co-founded.

Both Moore and Barefoot said Justice went to the lobby and invited people to come into the board chamber, knowing there were no seats available. She then used her phone to record video and audio of Corapi's prolonged interaction with the deputies assigned to the meeting.

"This incident was, in my opinion, choreographed by Tiffany Justice," Barefoot said.

In her own Facebook post, Justice wrote that she went to the lobby and invited people into the chamber only after she spoke with Moore before the start of the meeting and convinced him to instruct district staffers in the audience to vacate their seats to accommodate more parents and visitors.

She went on to accuse Moore and the board of discouraging the public from attending meetings, writing, "I felt, and still feel, that this was a blatant move on the district's part to

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make speakers feel uncomfortable and unwelcome."

That's nonsense, of course.

The School Board has been limiting attendance in the chamber to accommodate social-distancing efforts throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents and visitors who want to address the board during the public-comment segments of meetings may do so, but some must wait in the lobby until their names are called.

For months, in fact, the board has patiently listened as the same lineup of anti-maskers paraded to the podium.

As for those auxiliary seats: They're reserved to allow board members to watch presentations on the dais, as was the case at last week's meeting, where students' academic achievements were recognized.

Corapi, however, didn't accept that explanation. He stubbornly argued with deputies for several minutes before he finally stood up and was physically escorted out of the chamber, attempting to verbally provoke an escalation of the incident on his way to the lobby.

"Why are you giving me a dirty look?" Corapi snapped at one deputy. "Why are you eyeballing me? You can't eyeball me like that. Who do you think you are?"

In his belligerent remarks from the podium, Corapi referred to masks as "muzzles" and called the district's mandate a "political charade," even though four of the board's five members are Republicans.

"It stops tonight," he told board members, defiantly attacking the mask mandate. "Get back on your podium, do your job and finish this thing."

Later in his tirade, he glared at the members and barked, "Look at me. Take a look. Don't look down. Look at me when I'm speaking. ... Don't not look at me and look at your phone and play with your hair. Do it and listen."

"This is what we're here for – to speak our truth."

Here's my truth: Attempts to intimidate School Board members by disrupting meetings, addressing them in a hostile tone and threatening protests at their homes is an insult to this community. It is bullying, and bullies should not be tolerated by any of us.

Especially our Chamber of Commerce. ■

Worker shortage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cialized positions, but most are for entry-level jobs on the factory floor, where the average starting pay is \$14 to \$16 per hour.

"Not only do we train the entry-level people, but they also receive a full ben-

efits package," Piper spokeswoman Jackie Carlon said. "So, if you haven't gone to college – if you're a high school graduate with a great work ethic – this could be a good way to start a new career."

Carlon said Piper began reducing its payroll through attrition when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020 and flight schools were closed,

eliminating the need for additional trainer aircraft.

Production fell nearly 16 percent from 290 total aircraft in 2019 to 244 in 2020, with the company's wildly popular trainers accounting for the bulk of the decrease.

"The flight schools went to an online training format," Carlon said, "which meant they didn't need airplanes."

Piper's executive leadership successfully navigated through the pandemic's turbulence by continuously monitoring the global aircraft sales market and making the necessary adjustments to the company's production and delivery schedule.

Among those adjustments was a decision to postpone work on trainers

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* Renderings are for marketing purposes only to show potential updates.

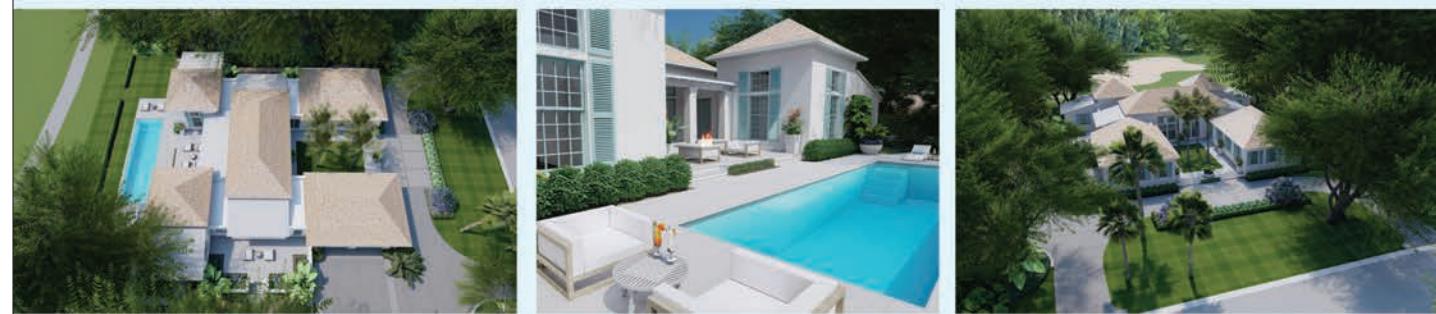
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Worker shortage

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– especially when purchase contracts weren't finalized – and focus on the company's other products, particularly its luxurious M-Class line of single-engine, turbo-prop aircraft.

"We didn't know what to expect when the pandemic first hit, because we had never been through anything like it before," Carlon said, "so we tried to minimize our risks."

Over the past 15 months, Piper's work force has shrunk – without layoffs – from nearly 1,000 employees to 900.

Now, though, as flight schools reopen and Piper's production increases, more workers are needed.

"The trainer market is still down a little bit because flight schools are still ramping up," Carlon said, "but we have a healthy production schedule for our M-Class line for the remainder of the year."

Unlike some other industries, such as residential and commercial construction, aircraft manufacturers aren't experiencing crippling and costly interruptions in their supply chain as a result of the national worker shortage, Carlon said.

Piper has seen some slowdowns in

the delivery of avionics, engines, tires and propellers, but Carlon said the delays have not caused any halts in production.

"A lot of businesses are feeling it, and we're no different," Carlon said of the worker shortage spawned in part by the federal government's supplement to states' unemployment payments during the pandemic.

"It's a common thread in our industry, too," she added. "It just hasn't hit us as hard."

But can Piper attract the workers it needs when so many people are still choosing to stay home or have found new jobs they like?

Carlon said the company has been advertising its open positions on online job boards and in a variety of publications. She believes the starting pay, benefits and training will attract workers.

"The good news is, a lot of people have moved to Florida, and especially the Treasure Coast," Carlon said, "so there should be more people looking for work."

She also touted Piper's accredited, two-year apprentice program, which offers a combination of on-the-job training and Indian River State College classroom instruction designed to qualify participants as a journeyman in aircraft assembly.

Piper does not require COVID-19 vaccinations as a condition of employment, but Carlon said they're strongly encouraged.

"We offer them here," she said. "The Whole Family Health Center comes in and does it." ■

Scott Alexander

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That comes out to a rate of 1.5 percent, he notes, far less than the county's infection rate of 8 percent.

Perhaps most impressive is that today, "virtually 100 percent" of his Vero congregation is vaccinated, Alexander claims.

"Unitarians follow the science," he says.

This summer, at age 72 and after 48 years as a Unitarian Universalist minister, Alexander will turn over the pulpit to a new interim minister; interviews are taking place this week.

He plans to keep the home in Vero that he shares with his longtime partner and now husband, Collins Mikesell, who has been commuting to Vero from Washington, where he is a senior analyst with the Association of American Medical Colleges.

"We have a lot of friends here," says Alexander.

The two plan to divide their time between Vero, a place in the Adirondacks and a riverfront condo they bought recently in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where Alexander has a large extended family.

One practice that will follow him is bike riding, a passion so intense that his congregation built a plaza at the church and installed a sculpture of a bike in his honor.

Alexander puts in 40 miles nearly every day, for a total of 13,000 miles a year.

During his future Vero stays – and barring any wipe-outs like the one in February when he broke his hip after a skid on slimy pavement in the church parking lot – Alexander will continue to be a regular sight riding his bike "around and around and around" Indian River County.

And the rides aren't just for his own benefit.

Five times, he has ridden across the country for charity, dipping his back tire in the Pacific Ocean and his front tire in the Atlantic 30 days and 3,300 miles later. Three of the rides were to fight hunger in Indian River County and raised \$150,000 for United Against Poverty.

"The energy he put into not just the ride but the fundraising [is impressive]," says Rabbi Michael Birnholz of Temple Beth Shalom. "He could just as well have said, 'This is my thing. I'm going to ride across America.' Instead,

he brought the whole community into it and turned it into a source of incredible donations – tens of thousands of dollars. And so many groups were involved in supporting it and following it up."

Birnholz has a long relationship with the Unitarians. For years, the congregation's home was next door to Temple Beth Shalom. After Birnholz's arrival in 2002, the synagogue needed to expand, so it bought the building vacated by the Unitarians when that congregation moved to its current location at 16th Street and 27th Avenue. Birnholz was among more than a half-dozen local faith leaders who met with Alexander before he flew to California to bless his bike.

Today, those spiritual leaders and more are part of a countywide interfaith group with Jewish, Christian, Moslem, Hindu, BaHai and humanist representatives that meets monthly at Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital, hosted by hospital chaplain Mindy Serafin.

It is the same group that came together in 2016 after the Pulse Nightclub terrorist attack in Orlando. In the days that followed that tragedy, Bob and Casey Baggott, the reverends at that time of Vero's Community Church, organized a moving interfaith service in their sanctuary honoring the victims of that tragedy.

The Baggotts went on to organize an annual interfaith memorial service at Thanksgiving, and when they were ready to move on from Vero, Alexander took over the service and held it at the Unitarian Universalist fellowship. More than 20 groups came together to offer prayers, readings and songs that year.

"He took the mantel from the Baggotts and really took it to the next level," says Birnholz.

Last year, the Thanksgiving service had to be held on Zoom. So were most church services, at least during lockdown last spring. As they reopen, some congregations, including Alexander's, are not giving up virtual services, after finding the outreach on YouTube invaluable.

UU members have the option of watching services live – or at their leisure later in the week – on the fellowship's YouTube channel, produced by six volunteers in a production booth with three computer-linked cameras, part of a \$20,000 technology upgrade to connect during COVID-19.

At one point in the pandemic, online services drew 180 viewers. Among the earliest sermons: risk assessment in life. Today the number has dropped to 120, some of whom watch the recording during the week.

Another 120 members show up in person for services. "Virtual services

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aren't going away," Alexander says. "It's something we're going to keep, going forward. We have older members who watch, or someone breaks a leg. We have snowbirds who watch from their other homes. My accountant is Roman Catholic, and he watches."

Alexander grew up in Wisconsin but his calling to the UU ministry took him to Houlton, Maine, where he was ordained in 1974 and served four years before moving on first to a church in Plainfield, New Jersey, and then to one in Boston.

He served a decade at each, and just over a decade in Bethesda, Maryland, with the River Road Unitarian Universalist congregation. In the summer of 2010, he moved to Vero to lead the congregation here, delivering his first sermon in September.

Vero's UU fellowship was founded in 1981 by the late Shirley St. John, a Boston-born member for life of the Republican Women's Club. A charter member of the Center for the Arts, now the Vero Beach Museum of Art,

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Scott Alexander

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St. John volunteered with the VNA and Council on Aging, but had to drive to Fort Pierce to find what her 2013 obituary called "a liberal fellowship."

Eventually, she called the Boston UU and found out how to start a fellowship here. The first meeting, with 15 members, was at her home. Within a decade, there were 100 members.

The group hired their first full-time minister, Dr. Richard Speck, and by 1994 had settled into the location on 43rd Avenue, next door to Temple Beth Shalom. In 2001, former School Board member Claudia Jimenez became the church's director of education. A second minister, Gail Geisenhainer, replaced Speck when he left for a post

within the national organization, and in 2005 the congregation bought a 1,100-seat facility that was the former First Church of God.

In it, the Unitarians opened a revenue-generating, non-denominational pre-school, called Bridges Early Learning Center, which now serves 100 children from 8 weeks old to kindergarten. And they started a money-making speakers series at Emerson Center.

Together those enterprises paid the bills for the building while congregants pledged support for ministry and staff.

Today, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship may be best-known because of the Emerson Center programs. In non-COVID times, the Celebrated Speakers Series brings in nationally known lecturers, often with a more liberal bent than other series in town. It is also

home to the Florida Humanities Series, which offers its programs for free.

The congregation's Coalition for Racial Justice is among the longest-running committees at the church. In 2015, after the killing of Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Alexander put a Black Lives Matter sign in front of the church, likely one of the first ministers in Vero to do so. The sign was defaced twice.

A week after the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Alexander organized a demonstration for gun control measures. It drew several hundred supporters to the Indian River County Courthouse.

Other committees at the church include an environmental group working on water quality in the Indian River Lagoon, and a group offering support for the LGBTQ community.

"We're very much a community center, and very involved in the improvement of the local community," says Alexander. "We're not a navel-gazing, inward-looking congregation. We're outward looking, serving in a wide variety of ways. And that's why we're growing. People are looking for avenues to express their caring and compassion. If a church doesn't do that, they'll go somewhere else."

Alexander, whose last day is July 31, anticipates serving on the boards of local nonprofits once he has stepped down from the pulpit. "I'll certainly stay involved in progressive politics," he says.

"This congregation is the progressive religious voice of this community and I intend to be a progressive voice in this town," he says. "We're for compassionate politics." ■

Riverside Theatre

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this year, as vaccines became more available, and the pandemic appeared to be waning. The theater made the decision to move forward with a January start even before Broadway announced that theaters in Manhattan would reopen in September.

"We were always working toward the shows," said Sales. "We were fortunate enough to be supported by an incredible board, an incredible Friends committee and a community that supported us, so we never had to let any of our staff go."

As a result, he said, the production team continued designing and building sets during the forced hiatus, trying them out on stage, and making any necessary adjustments.

"They just had a little more luxury, timewise, to make sure that everything worked perfectly, and they've been doing that," said Sales, adding that the theater plans to hold auditions in November, hopefully, in person in New York.

The first Stark Stage show will be



Victoria Hood, assistant scenic charge, paints panels on the main stage at Riverside Theatre in preparation for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

PHOTO BY BRENDA AHEARN

Riverside's production of the beloved 1945 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Carousel," running Jan. 4-23. That will be followed by "Comedy of Tenors," Feb. 1-20, followed by "On Your Feet," which will run March 8-27 before that show moves to the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia.

"Billy Elliot" will run April 12-May 1 and the season will end with "Almost Heaven: John Denver's America," May 10-20.

The two Waxlax Stage productions remain the same: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," Jan. 18-Feb. 6, and "A Doll's House, Part 2," March 22-April 10.

Sales said that starting the season in January is proving beneficial in a number of ways.

"Now we can concentrate on our big fundraisers in November. Rather than jam the first show into the fundraising season, this way we start in January and go all the way through May. It's a straight set of shows."

And while they will follow whatever procedures Actors' Equity implements in terms of audience capacity and/or masks, the later start allows them to gauge conditions on Broadway and possibly other regional theaters.

Financially, Sales said, Riverside Theatre is on solid ground, adding: "We're very, very grateful for all the support that we have been shown."

When they were forced to shut down, he said some refunds were requested but the vast majority opted to ease the theater's financial burden by either donating their tickets back or carrying them forward into the new season. Additionally, the Comedy Zone and Live at the Loop have continued to bring people onto the campus.

He said that Riverside did get some PPP funding, adding that "the majority of our continuation was board led and Friends led."

Of their three major fundraisers, Festival of Trees, the Friends Fall Luncheon and the Gala, Sales said: "We're working on them. Festival of Trees is definitely coming back. What exactly that will be is still being worked out."

While there is no word on the Gala as yet, there is talk about the luncheon fundraiser. Riverside also plans to resume informative backstage tours, and adult classes in January.

"We're really talking about ramping up fully," said Sales.

Summer camps will once again be in-person, although tweaked as two performance camps, with participants in the first camp performing "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and the second camp performing "Puffs."

"We are moving forward with everything; I can't tell you how excited I am. People are excited to come back to some sort of normalcy," Sales said. "All indications are trending the right way." ■

Property prices soar

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NEWS

Panel now assigned to get schools into compliance with '67 order

BY GEORGE ANDREASSI
Staff Writer

School district administrators and Equity Committee members have been left with the challenge of figuring out how to get out from under a half-century-old court desegregation order after public opposition quashed the hiring of an equity and diversity chief.

School Superintendent David Moore said the divisiveness caused by the Feb. 24 job posting for a Chief Equity and Diversity Officer for the 2021-2022 school year convinced him to instead try a team approach to desegregating the public schools.

"The pushback was quite shocking to me," Moore said during the School Board's May 11 business meeting. "The understanding I've come to is that I don't need one position. I'm going to reallocate responsibilities within senior staff and cabinet to ensure we do a much better job around access."

"We need to be better in providing the resources to those that don't have the resources to be successful," Moore said. "Connecting children to the systems, to

the people, to the programs – whatever it is they need to be successful."

In a related matter, the School Board voted unanimously to assign the existing Equity Committee the challenge of advancing efforts to bring the school district into compliance with the 1967 federal desegregation order.

The district has agreed to work to improve the academic performance and reduce the disciplinary disparities for African-American students, and hire more African-American educators, among other goals.

School Board member Peggy Jones, whose four-decade career in the district included a stint as Sebastian River High School principal, said having African-American educators helps motivate better academic performance and behavior among African-American students.

"I want everyone to know, regarding this Equity Committee: The work that is being done is so very important," Jones said. "This is a huge part of what we've got to do in the district to move it forward."

"Equity is more than race," Jones

said. "We want all students on every campus to have the same shot at whatever they want to do."

School Board member Jacqueline Rosario joined several parents and political activists in claiming that some are using words like "diversity" and "equity" as euphemisms to advance a "Neo-Marxist" political agenda in public schools.

"This is in part where we're getting the community's uproar about this," Rosario said, reading from a right-wing website called Battlefront that offers ideas on how to oppose the purported "Neo-Marxist" agenda.

Rosario called for district administrators to research legislation in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Idaho that bans "critical race theory" from public schools, and figure out if similar policies can be instituted in Indian River County.

An American Bar Association lesson on critical race theory dated Jan. 12, 2021 says: "It critiques how the social construction of race and institutionalized racism perpetuate a racial caste system that relegates people of color to the bottom tiers."

"It acknowledges that the legacy of slavery, segregation, and the imposition of second-class citizenship on Black Americans and other people of color continue to permeate the social fabric of this nation."

Paul Westcott, a Vero Beach attorney, offered to draft a policy for the School Board to keep critical race theory out of the public schools based on the new laws in other states.

"There are a lot of people interested in helping, but when we hear 'whiteness' and 'white privilege' and all of that stuff, it doesn't give us warm and fuzzy feelings," Westcott said. "Quite frankly, I don't want to show up and have reason to feel guilty."

"My family comes from Kansas and Illinois. I haven't done detailed research, but I'm pretty sure none of them owned slaves," Westcott said. "I shouldn't feel guilty, and I shouldn't have to tiptoe around those issues showing up to help. Neither should anyone else in our community."

Others called it a waste of money to pay an administrator approximately \$100,000 per-year "to lead the district's

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NEWS

efforts to build a culture of equity, diversity and inclusiveness for all students, families, employees and school community."

But Joseph Parr, a Stetson University student and Vero Beach High School graduate, told the School Board "critical race theory directly threatens white supremacy because it exposes the various ways racism exists in law and policy."

"The attacks you will hear today are just a sideshow meant to distract the board from achieving full unitary status with a desegregation order we should have fulfilled decades ago," Parr said. "Stay the course and work to make our school district more equitable for our students." ■

Property prices soar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

during the past 12 months is up 30 percent compared to the prior 12 months, from \$1.576 million to \$2.015 million, according to figures provided by Dale Sorensen broker/owner Matilde Sorensen.

"I have never seen this market before," says Sherry, who notes a previously unknown urgency on the part of buyers coming to Vero from around the country.

"There is an insatiable desire for island real estate," says ONE Sotheby's broker associate Mike Thorpe. "It's hit critical mass in the past 60 to 90 days. There was a 20- to 25-percent increase over the past year or so and then another 10- to 20-percent jump in the past 90 days. We are in uncharted territory."

"This is a market unlike any before," agrees Sally Daley, owner of Daley & Company Real Estate. "It is, in part, decades of being undervalued finally catching up in a time of increased demand and drastically reduced supply."

"There has been a reset on our prices," says oceanfront developer Yane Zana. "It happened around January. An oceanfront house I built and sold at 640 Reef Road was on the market all last year for \$7.995 million and there were lots of showings but no sale. Then, in January, Luke Webb brought a buyer who paid \$7.7 million. Almost immediately multiple other homes on the street sold for more than \$7 million. Nothing had ever sold over \$6 million on Reef Road before this year."

Even with the reset, Zana believes there is plenty of room for further price appreciation.

"A similar house I built next door to 640 Reef is owned by the same person who sold 640 for \$7.7 million," he says. "It was just completed, and she just moved in, so she is not ready to sell,

but I have been approached by top island agents asking if she would be willing to sell. If she does, I believe it will go in the \$10 million range."

"The homeowner wants \$9.9 if she sells and I have several buyers who are interested at that price," says Webb, an estate agent with Premier Estate Properties. "The only problem is, she just got settled and isn't ready yet to move again."

"Ten million might seem like a high price on that street right now, but the same house would be \$1.6 or \$1.7 million in Delray Beach," Zana says, "so maybe the price will end up being higher."

Zana has seen the same upward price pressure at his Indigo development south of Tracking Station Park.

After he acquired the 4-acre tract for \$6 million last fall, he was immediately approached by other developers who offered him as much as \$14 million for the prime oceanfront tract.

Zana decided to keep the property and develop a gated luxury subdivision with 15 detached villas and a condo building with 6 units, with prices ranging from \$2 million to \$3.5 million.

He debuted the development in January and already has 11 out of 21 units under reservation, even though he is

still a month or two away from breaking ground.

Seeing the strength of buyer demand, Zana has begun raising the price of his oceanfront villas \$100,000 with each sale, maximizing profit as developers everywhere do as their projects sell out.

Brokers up and down the island say the intense demand for island property continues to be driven by an influx of buyers from large urban areas from Miami to Manhattan to Los Angeles who hated the experience of being stuck in an apartment during last year's shutdowns.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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NEWS

Property prices soar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Many who were planning to retire to Florida in the coming years moved up their plans, and others simply decided to get out of the city and find a place with abundant open space and outdoor activities where businesses were open, and their kids could attend school in person.

Having discovered they can work remotely from anyplace broadband goes, top executives are coming to Vero in search of large homes with room for an office and extended family – and for some of them, price is not their main concern.

"There are so many buyers out there who are so motivated to get a slice of our beautiful seaside environment and lifestyle that price is not always as big a factor in a purchase," says Webb.

"I recently placed two CEOs of public companies and a top corporate office of a large, publicly traded biotech company in homes on the island. Also, two other CEOs of large private companies.

"And I've got two dozen other buyers in that stratosphere I am working with who would buy a house here tomorrow if we could find what they want, and price wouldn't be so much of a factor."

That was the case with Curley's client, a sophisticated buyer from Palm Beach who obviously knew what the property had sold for nine months earlier and didn't care.

"My clients wanted to live on that stretch of Old Riomer Ocean Drive where it's not busy traffic wise, yet still close to everything and feels like a real neighborhood," Curley says. "They will build a beautiful home there, confident that property values in Vero are likely to continue going up, up, up."

"The price may seem a bit high, but again, if you have a broader look at what's really going on in this market and how few options there are for oceanfront between the two bridges, you realize that it's not going to look high for very long."

"When we began negotiating in February, \$5.5 million seemed crazy high, but now just after the close, I already feel like it's not that high because of how much the market has gone up in the past 2 months!"

Curley's client, who closed on the Riomer property at 1746 Ocean Drive on April 2, is bullish enough on Vero's island that he bought a second property later in the month as an investment, paying \$3.4 million for the last vacant oceanfront lot for sale along Ocean Drive between the Vero Beach Hotel and the Conn Beach boardwalk.

"That sale closed on April 29 and my

client has already been offered a million more than what he paid, but he will hold out for a higher price," Curley says.

Scarcity – "Since I started here in 2004, there have typically been 300 to 400 houses for sale on the island," says Sally Daley. "Today there are 60 to 70 – but it is far from the only one" – is a key factor pushing prices higher, but it isn't the only one.

"Many factors at play here," says Curley. "We've always had the nice weather and low taxes, but now we are seeing people come up from Miami and Palm Beach to seek less traffic and get more for their money, and we are seeing Northerners who were snowbirds decide to stay year-round, or at least extend the season longer, and many of their kids and grandkids are moving here. St. Edward's is nearly at capacity and that wasn't the case when I moved here 5 years ago."

"The lifestyle here can't be beat and actually our real estate looks pretty affordable to those in the Northeast. I believe people think Vero is like Palm Beach was many years ago, and that Vero will continue to do very well. I'm hopeful we will get even better shops and restaurants, and that people will continue to invest here. Vero is becoming less of a 'hidden gem' every day."

While waterfront is leading the upward charge of prices on the island, property across the board is appreciating rapidly.

Online real estate sales and data giant Redfin reports that asking prices throughout 32963 ZIP code are up 37 percent year over year.

"The price increase is across all product segments on the barrier island," says Daley. "What was \$900,000 a year ago is \$1.1 million or \$1.2 million now."

Despite the price increases already seen, most island real estate professionals think there is plenty of room for continued appreciation.

"Property values in Vero Beach have a long runway ahead of them in comparison to other parts of Florida," says Matilde Sorensen.

"It is not going to slow down," says Daley. "We are seeing a broader range of geography and demographic come here now, people from Delray Beach and California, as well as New York and New Jersey."

"In the past few weeks, everyone I have had out for showings has been in their early 50s with at least one kid still at home."

"Even with prices as high as they have come due to COVID, when you factor in scarcity and the desirability of Vero, oceanfront property is still undervalued in relation to similar locales in Florida," says Zana.

"I don't see the trend changing. It is supply and demand." ■



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"That sale closed on April 29 and my

NEWS

GOP women's club disputes Sheriff's bill for rally security

BY RAY McNULTY
Staff Writer

The Sheriff's Office billed the Republican Women of Indian River nearly \$5,000 for providing security last month at the club's "America First Rally" at the county fairgrounds, where controversial Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene was the featured speaker.

The club, however, will pay only a fraction of that amount.

According to past-president Linda Teetz, who handles the group's financial reporting, the 350-member club has agreed to pay for six of the eight deputies needed for security and traffic control at the April 24 event.

She said the Sheriff's Office would cover the costs of the other two deputies because Greene was a member of Congress and "they have to protect all federal officials who come to the county."

The invoice from the Sheriff's Office, however, listed 20 deputies – each working from 6 a.m. to noon at a scale of \$40 or \$45 per hour – for a total of \$4,920.

"We said we pay for six, and then we get to the rally and we've got a zillion deputies that we didn't agree to," Teetz said. "Why they needed a SWAT team there, I don't know."

"We certainly didn't expect that many deputies," she added. "It was dumbfounding to us."

To be sure, there was a noticeable police presence at the rally, which attracted only three protesters: a man standing outside the fairgrounds' gate and holding a sign that read, "Fruit Loops For Breakfast," and two women standing outside the Expo Center entrance with protest signs.

Democrats of Indian River had put out a social-media statement saying it would not protest the event.

Teetz said she was out of town when the club received the invoice and didn't know what prompted the Sheriff's Office to increase its security force or who made the decision, but she was stunned by the total amount.

"Someone from the club called me and asked, 'Have you seen the bill?'" Teetz said. "When I found out, I almost blew a gasket."

Eventually, Teetz said, she reached Sheriff Eric Flowers via text message and he told her: "Linda, don't worry about it. Don't have an anxiety attack. I'll take care of it."

She said the club hadn't yet received an amended invoice, but she expected the cost to be about \$3,000 less than the previous bill.

As of Monday, Flowers had not responded to an email seeking an ex-

planation of the billing dispute.

The invoice, however, lists by name the 20 deputies assigned to the event: four at \$270 each (\$45 per hour) and 16 at \$240 (\$40 per hour).

If the club is charged for only six deputies – three at the higher rate and three at the lower rate – the total would be \$1,530. Subtract that amount from the total bill of \$4,920, and the Sheriff's Office must cover \$3,390 of the cost of

providing security for the event.

Even if you deduct the \$540 the agency would've paid for two of the higher-paid deputies to provide security for Greene, anyway, the Sheriff's Office still must absorb the \$2,820 for the other 12 deputies Teetz said weren't needed.

The Republican women's club also hired two security guards with metal-detecting wands to scan every person who attended the rally, which was held

inside the Expo Center. The cost for that service was \$1,100, Teetz said.

"So, all in all, we spent almost \$3,000 for security," she said. "We weren't going to make any money on this, anyway, and we broke even."

Teetz said the club did not pay Greene or any of the rally's other speakers.

The club did pay for venue rent and the breakfast food supplied by Chick-fil-A. ■

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2 INDIAN RIVER SHORES CRIMINAL CASES REMAIN IN PANDEMIC LIMBO

BY LISA ZAHNER
Staff Writer

With the courts ramping up to tackle a backlog of felony cases that languished due to COVID-19 Court House restrictions, three defendants arrested for crimes against Indian River Shores residents are still awaiting trial.

The oldest is the case of Chiquita LaShae McGee and Sophia Monae Shepherd, arrested in March 2018, both accused of stealing upwards of \$50,000 from an elderly John's Island couple. They are charged with exploitation of an elderly adult, a first-degree felony, and scheme to defraud a financial institution, a second-degree felony.

McGee is being represented by the Public Defender's Office. Her trial, which was set for April 26, was postponed and a new trial date has not been set. Judge Dan Vaughn has scheduled a docket call – a court hearing for scheduling case activity – on May 26.

Assistant State Attorney Lev Evans said the pandemic has made it more challenging to gather everyone needed for the trial. "We had a witness from Texas who couldn't fly here due to COVID-19. There's a big witness list and it's tough to get that many people together over the summer," Evans said, but he noted that the defense attorney is as motivated as he is to move the case to trial. "If I had to give you my best guess I'd say maybe August," Evans said.

Attorney Robert Stone is defending Shepherd, and that trial seems a bit farther down the road, Evans said. Stone agreed that Shepherd's trial would likely be one to two months after McGee's. "And depending upon the outcome of that trial, we might be able to resolve ours with a plea," Stone said.

Defendants involved in the same crime typically are tried separately when they have made statements about each other, according to Evans.

Stone said McGee and Shepherd have been set for separate trials "all along, but I don't think there were any real incriminating statements."

Stone said Shepherd and McGee are relatives and he doesn't see any reason why one would be compelled to testify against the other, because that might violate their Fifth Amendment rights under the U.S. Constitution, and pave the way for an appeal.

Both defendants are free on bond and have had their pre-trial release conditions loosened to allow for employment, or participation in children's school activities.

As for the elderly couple, the husband died, and the wife went into a long-term care facility as the case dragged on. Just before the pandemic, prosecutors were trying to move these two cases rapidly toward trial as the law allows for crimes against the elderly, but now it's unclear whether the remaining alleged victim will see a verdict in her lifetime.

Stone said the standstill in court operations for six months, and the gradual resumption of trials, has been frustrating for people he represents, especially for those incarcerated. As a former, long-time State Attorney himself, Stone said he understands the courts have a massive job ahead to get through the caseload. "There's nothing we can do but just to dig in and get them done, one at a time," Stone said.

The other pending case that got a lot of attention in Indian River Shores involved an extended family gathered together at an oceanfront estate in Bermuda Bay in May 2020.

Two teenage girls were sharing a studio suite with an open bath, and a local man is accused of installing a hidden surveillance camera allegedly placed to capture private images from a teenage girl's room in what's still referred to as the "Wackenhut House."

Lennon Starkweather, 38, allegedly used the access he had to the home through his electronics and home security system business to spy on the teenagers by installing a stealth camera hidden in a cellphone charger box. The girls discovered the device, didn't recognize it, and looked up the name of the charger on Google to find it was a spy camera.

Indian River County Sheriff's Office investigators were called in and, according to the arrest report, caught Starkweather when he came to the home and retrieved the camera. He had it in his bag when they stopped him. Starkweather is facing two felony counts of video voyeurism.

Indian River Shores Public Safety Capt. Mark Shaw said last week he'd heard Starkweather has been offered a plea deal. Assistant State Attorney Patrick O'Brien, who is prosecuting the case, confirmed that development, but noted the deal has not been sealed.

"In 99 percent of cases we make a plea offer and in this case a plea offer has been extended. It's just a matter of whether the defendant chooses to accept it," O'Brien said.

Plea offers typically come with a deadline, O'Brien said, but the state has yet to limit the time Starkweather has to accept the deal on the table. ■

32963

PEOPLE



Sara Beth and Dillon Roberts.

**ALL BETS BENEFIT VETS
AT 'NIGHT AT THE RACES'
FUNDRAISER P. 18**

PEOPLE

'Teddy' tales attest to love, respect for retiring deputy



Corey and Megan Thompson.



Aimee and Troy Floyd.



Simon Schwartz and Steven Schwartz.

BY STEPHANIE LaBAFF
Staff Writer

Members of the community who have had the good fortune of crossing paths with Indian River County Sheriff's Dep. Teddy Floyd at some point during his 32-year career gathered at LaPorte Farms in Sebastian to bid him a fond farewell during a community retirement party.

Boisterous laughter rang out as well-wishers gathered in small groups to swap Teddy stories, with friends, family members, community leaders and even children all having tales to tell. It was a clear indication that there isn't any aspect of the community that Floyd hasn't supported over the past three decades, during which he protected and served local residents and visitors alike.

"I was giving my mom a hard time about getting up for school," shared one high school student. "So, Teddy told her to call him on the mornings I gave her a hard time. He made sure I got up and went to school."

"I came here today because of my respect for Teddy. He's been very good for the community," said Charlie Pope, Youth Sailing Foundation founder, reflecting on the vast number of lives Floyd has touched and sharing a story about Teddy dealing with a pair of trespassing fishermen.

A mother who waited in the line to give Floyd a hug and a gift said that were it not for him, her children wouldn't have had Christmas gifts one year, adding: "He is always out there helping people, no matter what they need."

"Teddy has always been there for me," said Laura LaPorte, when asked what compelled her to host the retirement party. "No matter what I asked



Teddy Floyd is greeted with warm hugs at his retirement party.



Anna Joseph, Osmita Sanon and Abigaelle Barthelemy.

him to do, whether it was bicycles for the kids at Christmas or setting up for the Back to School event, Teddy is always willing to help."

Chuckling, LaPorte added "and the kids always ask about the dancing cop."

She noted that Floyd never said 'no' when asked to help out, even when it came to riding the mechanical bull or volunteering to take a turn in the dunk tank.

Whether as a football coach or a responding officer, off duty or on, Floyd believed in community policing through example, as became apparent through the stories that were told.

Floyd said that he had initially thought policing was all about arresting people and writing tickets, but soon learned that he could affect real change by "giving hope and making sure our community was safe" by following the counsel of his mother to "never look down on a man unless you're picking him up."

He said he considers himself fortunate to have worked and lived in a community where people care and take ownership, and readily admits that he couldn't have done what he does were it not for his wife's support.

"I try to be the same officer in every community, whether it's Black, white, whatever. Right now, if we ever needed to do anything, we need to come together as a community and put all our resources toward making what we call 'unity in the community,'" added Floyd.

And, he said, while it's been hard to say goodbye, don't count him out just yet. After spending some time with his family, he plans to return as a School Resource Officer and continue with his community policing.

So, for Floyd, it's so long ... for now. ■

PHOTOS: BRENDA AHEARN

PEOPLE



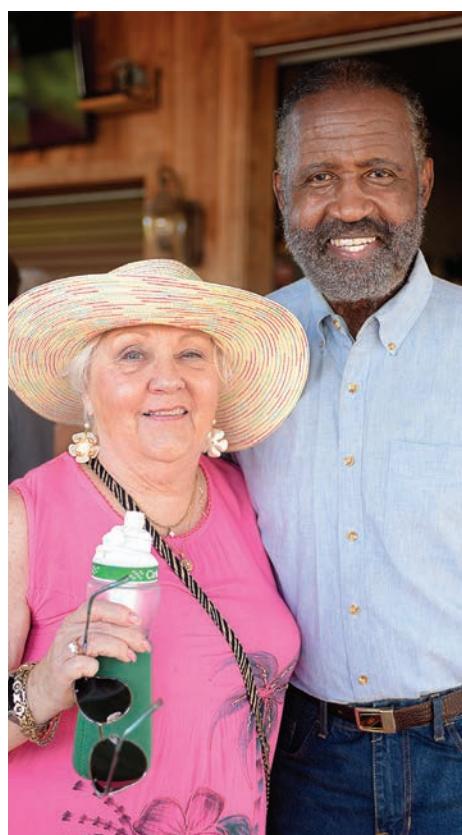
Pattie and Wayne Hall.



Harry Jones with Teddy and Terri Floyd.



Charlie Sembler, County Commission Chairman Joe Flescher and Rev. Dr. John Vacchiano.



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Mom's the word at Buggy Bunch 'Mother of all Races'



BY STEPHANIE LaBAFF
Staff Writer

Downtown Vero Beach was flooded with pink the day before Mother's Day for the second annual Mother of all Races 5K Run/Walk hosted by the Buggy Bunch. Walkers and runners left from and ended their Saturday morning jaunt from the nonprofit's recently completed facility.

Little ones dressed as superheroes kicked off the morning with childlike enthusiasm in a 100-meter Fun Run for children ages 5 and under. The caped-crusaders gave it their all and crossed the finish line in a blaze of cuteness, reminding everyone of the genesis for the event – to celebrate mothers by supporting Buggy Bunch programming.

The objective of the Buggy Bunch, a Christian-based organization, is to "build relationships and meet the needs of Indian River County moms and their families" through programming, outreach and discipleship. Its programs include educational playgroups, faith development, family and social outings, fitness and nutrition, a Diaper Closet, marriage enrichment, food delivery for new mothers, and a speaker series.

"Our mission is moms, and what better way than to have the Mother of all Races on Mother's Day weekend," said Tara Wright, Buggy Bunch executive director, adding that the event was organized to raise community awareness and funds for its programs.

Wright noted that most of their programming was paused during the pandemic's stay-at-home mandate, with the exception of the Dia-

per Closet, a community outreach program that provides diapers, wipes and formula to impoverished mothers and families in the county.

"We saw double and, in some cases, triple our client base during COVID. There were a lot of people that were already struggling that were impacted even more because of COVID and the loss of income. That was definitely reflected in our clients," said Wright.

She added that they were able to increase their stock thanks to funding from the United Way of Indian River County and that once the mandate was lifted, outdoor programs reconvened.

"Our moms were really desperate for interaction and relationships. Oftentimes, when we're considering health and the safety measures that we need to put in place to protect ourselves, we forget about the whole mental health side of this and what that isolation can do. Moms were just coming out in droves, just really ready to hang out and be in fellowship with other moms. They just need that support system, and that's the basis of what we provide."

Participants each received a relatable T-shirt that encouraged them to "Run like your mom just used your middle name!"

Taking the message to heart, Jake Kramer took first place overall with a time of 17:56, and Jessica Davis was first in the women's division at 23:12.

An upcoming grand opening and community open house at the new Buggy Bunch facility will be announced shortly. For more information, visit thebuggybunch.com. ■

PEOPLE



Tara Wright and Leslie Brown.

PHOTOS: KAILA JONES



Chelsea Garrison with daughter Reagan and Mandy Madon.



Jaisree McCormick and Sherry Parsell.



Kim Metz, Dawn West and Darcie West.



Bethany Baker with daughter Esther and Bonnie Martinelli.



DeeDee Roberts, Jennifer Budde, Aubrie Rice and April Rice.



Paul, Delaney and Erin Chung.

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PEOPLE

All bets benefit vets at 'Night at the Races' fundraiser

BY STEPHANIE LaBAFF
Staff Writer

Indian River County veterans won big on the eve of the Kentucky Derby during a Night at the Races fundraiser at the Heritage Center, hosted by and to benefit the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

As they sipped on mint juleps, ladies sporting elaborate hats and dapper gentlemen all vied for top honors in the Derby Hat and Best Dressed competition. The ladies' hats were a sight to behold, adorned with feathers, tulle, ribbons and other decorative features in a rainbow of colors, while the men strutted about in pastel linen suits, cutting quite the debonair figures.

A buffet catered by Wild Thyme fortified attendees as they cheered on their horses, took chances on raffle items, and tried their luck at a wine pull and bourbon wall, all to support the VCIRC's mission to "support all Indian River County veterans and their families while raising awareness of



Kevin and Karen Nuccitelli with Robin Jones.

PHOTOS CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

PHOTOS: KAILA JONES

veteran needs and their contributions to society."

Ten "mystery" races featuring horses named by sponsors were projected onto the screen, and anticipation built as the horses rounded the track heading for the finish line. But no matter

which horse folks bet on – with funny money, of course – local veterans will get the help they need through Veterans Council programs and services.

More than 15,000 veterans reside in Indian River County, and during the pandemic the Veterans Coun-

cil saw substantial increases in need throughout the community.

Since March 2020, nearly \$90,000 in direct aid was provided to 110 veterans and their families through the Upward American Veterans program, which provides emergency funds for utility bills, rent, medical expenses and groceries to honorably discharged U.S. military veterans and their families.

The Veterans Helping Veterans program, funded by an Impact 100 grant, enabled the VCIRC to allocate some \$100,000 to roughly 70 veterans unable to pay for needed home repairs or improvements.

Other programs include transportation to the VA hospital in West Palm Beach and the local community-based outreach clinic, college scholarships for the children of veterans, and the Military Veteran Parking program, which offers reserved parking spaces at local businesses to honor our local veterans for their sacrifices.

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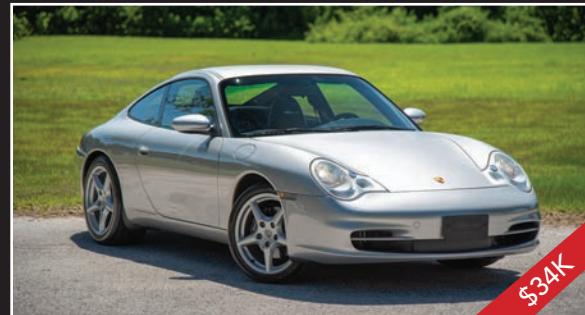
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2003 Chevrolet Corvette 50th Anniv. 6-Speed



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2002 Porsche 911 6-Speed



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PEOPLE

said Jim Romanek, VCIRC executive director. "We never ask for anything back. This is all given to the veteran for their service, help and dedication to the country."

"This year is the 100th anniversary of the first ship that came back from

World War I with our troops," said Romanek. To mark its significance, this year's Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary, 9 a.m. Monday, May 31, will feature keynote speaker and Gold Star Mother Michelle Dale, as well as a reading

of the poem "Flanders Fields," recited by a descendent of Alex MacWilliam Sr., a veteran, Vero Beach resident and member of the Florida Legislature, who led the creation of Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Romanek also said that the decision

was made to have their annual Veterans and Family Picnic (canceled this February due to COVID) held in honor of Army Spc. Dale J. Kridlo, who was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2010.

For more information, visit veteranscouncilirc.org. ■

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PEOPLE



PHOTOS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Paula Stevens and Lynn Wannebo.



Emilie and John Brady.



David and Amanda Rodriguez.



Renee and Michael Zickert.



Stephanie and Kevin Klepac.



Cynthia Ryan and Jim Romanek.



Susan and Randall Flinchum.



Laura Moss and Marty Zickert.

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PEOPLE



Hap Allston, Carroll Oates and Curtis Holden.



Tillie and Dave Newhart.



Robert and Samantha Brackett.

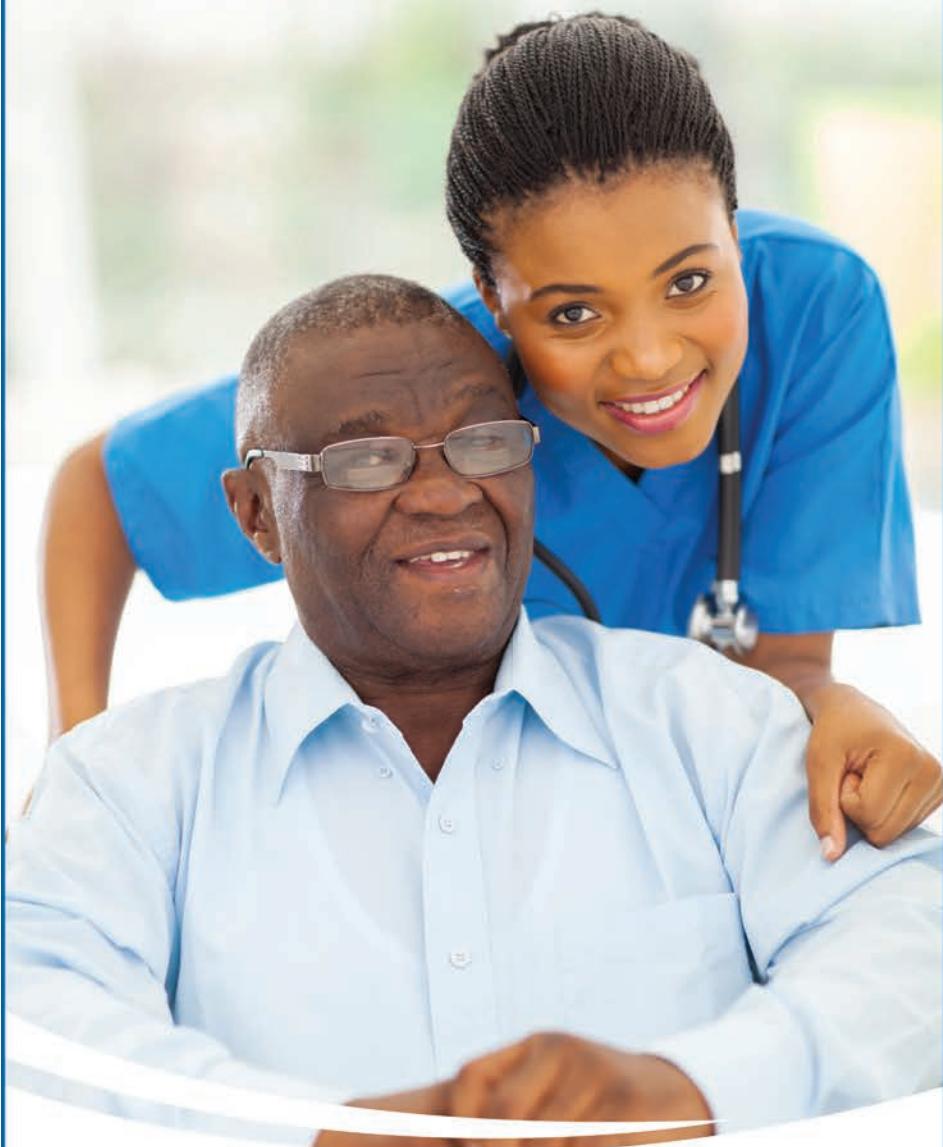


Yocasta Mallen, Stacey Cade and Dr. Doris Ferres.



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PEOPLE

Rounds of applause as Golf-A-Thon raises record \$450K

BY STEPHANIE LaBAFF
Staff Writer

The day dawned with blue skies and green fairways for the recent 31st annual Golf-A-Thon to benefit the VNA & Hospice Foundation at Bent Pine Golf Club, during which golf pros from 13 local clubs played 135 holes of golf in a single day.

Unlike past years, which saw supporters from the various clubs cheering on their pros and numerous VNA volunteers helping out, because of COVID safety precautions players spent the day showcasing their skills, one stroke after another, aided by only a handful of VNA volunteers. To compensate, the tournament was live-streamed, so that everyone was able to watch as the high level of competitive golf unfolded.

Although the majority of volunteers couldn't be on hand during the tournament, a team of 27 Club Captains had previously gotten the word out to friends and neighbors within their communities via mailings, handwrit-



STORY & PHOTOS CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Ryan Zug, Don Meadows, Frank Mentzer and Drew DiSesa.

PHOTOS: BRENDA AHEARN

ten notes, calls and follow-ups.

Their efforts clearly paid off. Despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic, Michelle Deschane, VNA & Hospice Foundation operations manager, announced that the event raised more than \$450,000 – a record-breaking year for the nonprofit.

For more than three decades, Vero Beach golf professionals have teed up to help raise funds to support the foundation's efforts to provide home health and hospice services to underinsured or uninsured Indian River County residents.

The inaugural Golf-A-Thon was

hosted at Orchid Island Golf Club in 1990, with four pros playing 100 holes and raising \$20,000. Of those original players, Pat Gorman, director of golf at Bent Pine, is the only one remaining.

This year Gorman hosted fellow pros: Don Meadows, Quail Valley Golf Club; Steve Hudson, John's Island Golf Club; Ryan Zug, Pointe West Country Club; Matthew Challenor, Windsor Golf Club; Drew DiSesa, Riomer Country Club; Randy Hedgecock, Vero Beach Country Club; Ian Killen, Indian River Club; Jimmy Gascoigne, Grand Harbor Golf Club; Bela Nagy, Sandridge Golf Club; Bob Gruber, Hawk's Nest at the Moorings; Frank Mentzer, Oak Harbor Golf Club; and David Champagne, Orchid Island Golf Club.

Don Meadows took first place in the post-game Shootout, with Pat Gorman taking second place. The Closest to the Pin winners were David Champagne, Steve Hudson, Don Meadows and Bela Nagy.

"We thank the clubs for allowing the pros to support us, and we thank



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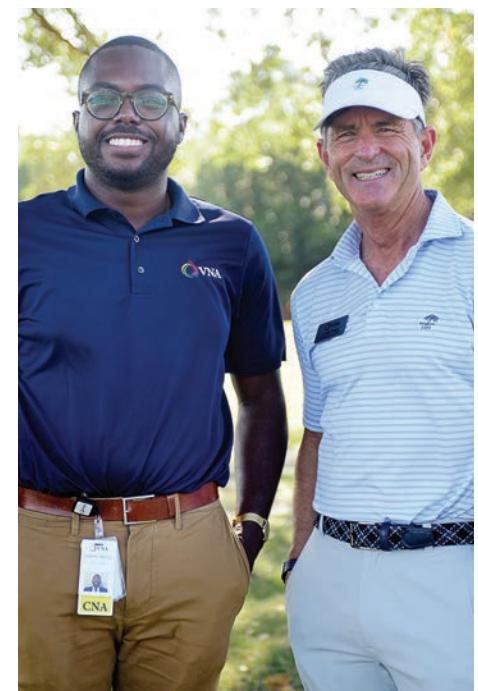


STORY & PHOTOS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Steve Hudson, Matthew Challenor and Pat Gorman.



Catherine Reichert and Mo Reilly.



Lorentz Jasmin and Lundy Fields.

the club memberships that support their pros," said Deschane. "These charitable dollars are important. This allows us to continue our mission of not turning anybody away. Everybody deserves high-quality, innovative care."

"This is an amazing event," said Lundy Fields, VNA president/CEO. "Club supporters are supporting their

pro, which supports the VNA, which then supports the people that we support – the folks that really can't afford healthcare and don't have great access to healthcare. It's a cascade of love and support through the pros to the VNA and the VNA's love and support into the community."

Commenting on this year's impressive contributions, Fields said, "I

think people have really connected more with knowing that people are hurting. COVID has leveled the playing field in certain ways. In a way, it brought people together because we were all experiencing the same fears and the same potential issues."

The VNA & Hospice Foundation was founded more than 40 years ago to help improve the quality of life of

patients in need, regardless of their financial resources. Programs include bereavement support, the children's bereavement retreat Camp Chrysalis, Hospice House, COVID vaccines for the homebound, music therapy, remote patient monitoring, community health and a mobile health clinic.

For more information, visit vnatc.com. ■

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INSIGHT



**HELL HATH NO FURY LIKE
AN ARMY OF RICH PARENTS**

HELL HATH NO FURY LIKE AN ARMY OF RICH PARENTS

BY LAUREN ETTER | BLOOMBERG



Atherton, Calif., once a quiet whistle-stop along the Southern Pacific Railroad, is situated 30 miles south of San Francisco and minutes from downtown Palo Alto. Fewer than 10,000 people live there, many of them behind tall hedges and forbidding gates. It's the wealthiest city in America, with an average annual income above \$525,000.

In comparison, Kevin Burns's stately home in an Atherton neighborhood called King Estates seems modest. Toward the end of the summer in 2017, Burns was sitting in the kitchen with his son and some of his son's friends. They were students at Palo Alto High School – Paly, as it's known by locals.

About a year earlier, Burns had left Chobani, the yogurt company, where he'd pulled off an operational miracle. After being brought in from the private equity firm TPG Capital, he'd righted the ship of a promising company that had been almost ruined by a crisis. Now he was considering taking a new job, this time as the chief executive officer of Juul Labs.

Juul was the nation's most popular e-cigarette. It was born from a provocative thesis project several years earlier by Stanford graduate students James Monsees and Adam Bowen. With more than 34 million smokers in the U.S. and 1 billion worldwide, they envisioned creating a less harmful version of the notorious burning stick.

Ultimately their project morphed into Juul, a device that dispensed a potent nicotine aerosol that could taste like dessert and fruit.

By the time Burns was up for the top job at Juul, the company had grown into one of Silicon Valley's most illustrious startups. It had also become one of the most controversial, for its role in hooking millions of teenagers on nicotine.

Burns wanted to do his own market research. The *New Yorker* described how he convened a meeting with his son and his friends and asked them about vaping. Three of them pulled Juuls from their pockets.

Burns's son and his friends regaled

Burns with stories of vaping, how they'd procured the devices, and how popular they'd become. For some people, the conversation might have served as a red flag. Not Burns. He'd been in private equity long enough to know that when you smell smoke, you run toward it, not away from it. That's where the money is.

"We could not be more pleased to announce Kevin as Juul Labs' new CEO," said Monsees in a news release on Dec. 11.

Burns was 54 when he took over. At Juul it looked as if Burns had been dealt a series of fairly run-of-the-mill challenges. This company was a long way from yogurt, but Juul and Chobani shared a common problem: They'd both scaled too quickly and couldn't keep up with all that the growth entailed.

While Burns sent his kids to the public high school in Palo Alto, many of Atherton's elite sent theirs to Sacred Heart Schools, a private institution on 64 serene acres in the middle of town. Founded as a boarding school in 1898

INSIGHT COVER STORY

by an order of French nuns, it was now a day school for more than a thousand children, from preschool to 12th grade. For parents paying full tuition, the cost was up to \$50,000 a year.

In early 2018, Emma Briger was a junior at Sacred Heart. She was a star goalie on the girls' lacrosse team, the Gators, and had been named a captain of the varsity team. She was set on leading the Gators to the championship that year, so she was disappointed and somewhat shocked to learn that several of her teammates had taken up vaping. They'd hit the Juul before and after practice, and sometimes even vape marijuana, showing up to practice high.

This irked her, but she didn't know what to do. One night she turned to her dad, Pete, for advice. The two had

developed a trusting and close relationship and bonded over sports. As they sat around the kitchen table in their Atherton home, Emma brought up the vaping.

"That's impossible," her dad replied. Pete Briger wasn't just another lacrosse dad. He was the billionaire CEO at Fortress Investment Group, a firm with more than \$45 billion of assets under management.

It wasn't that Briger didn't trust what his daughter was telling him. He was just in disbelief. He knew people did stupid things, but surely no kid who attended Sacred Heart would show up to lacrosse practice high. Over the next couple of weeks, however, Emma kept coming home with stories, and Briger and his wife, Devon, called the coach of the team, Wendy Kridel.

"Wendy, you know, my daughter is telling me that this is happening, and that it's a real problem," Briger told her.

"It's not happening, Pete," Kridel responded.

Briger and Kridel had a good relationship. "Just do me a favor," Briger said. "Can you just go check into this?"

Within days, Kridel came back. "I'm just amazed," she told him. "But you're right."

Co., where he oversaw private equity and venture capital investments for the university's endowment. He'd had a long career at Makena Capital Management, a \$20 billion investment management firm he started with another Stanford alum, and he sat on numerous boards, including the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the University of Virginia, and Sacred Heart. His kids attended the school with Briger's daughter.

Burke had started noticing something odd at his house. When his teenage children had friends over, he'd see these little devices plugged into the outlets by the basketball court as they were shooting hoops or by the pool as they were swimming. When he first saw them, he had no clue what they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

"I just wanted to let you know that your stupid company has gotten my teenage kids' friends hooked on nicotine"



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

INSIGHT COVER STORY

were – like so many others, he thought they were some sort of flash drive. He quickly learned otherwise.

Burke's own father had started smoking cigarettes at 16 and struggled mightily with the habit until finally kicking it in his 40s. He'd died of esophageal cancer. Burke remembered watching with a sense of satisfaction and relief as smoking rates among kids ticked down year over year. Now he was furious. That's how he ended up in front of his computer on the afternoon of June 23, banging out a note to Burns on LinkedIn:

*Kevin,
I believe we're both in the same Atherton community near Stanford. I just wanted to let you know that your stupid f----- company has gotten my teenage kids' friends hooked on nicotine. From here on out, I'm going to go out of my way to fight the bullshit that you all are doing there and will be more than vocal about it. I have deep ties in the investment world and am from Washington DC and have deep ties there, all of which I will leverage to the max. I hope you feel really great about making lots of money for yourselves, under the guise of helping old conventional smokers kick the habit, while you hook a whole new generation on something that a decade from now we'll all know the truth about, just as things have played out with conventional smoking. Just like the Sackler family legacy with opiates, helping all those in pain while addicting millions and killing thousands. You'll have a beautiful, proud legacy for you and your family to celebrate in future generations.*

*Best,
Dave Burke*

After a few days passed, Burke could see that Burns had opened his LinkedIn message. But he received no reply. That made him even madder. He decided to take his anger public, with a post on Facebook:

Here is my vote for the most evil company in the world, making money hand over fist in large part by destroying the lives of what will prove to be millions of middle school students who get rapidly hooked on nicotine and cannot control their addiction. They know exactly what they are doing and where that revenue is



coming from as they target their under age illegal audience with flavors like mango, bubblegum, and cool cucumber. Just like the now-exposed Sackler family which has destroyed the lives of millions from easy opiate access as their privately held company Purdue pocketed the cash and looked the other way. Don't believe the bullshit PR statements they put out and their pledge of \$30 million to "fight underage use," which is a rounding error of their profits. I've seen the numbers and it's appalling.



Not long after, Burke got a call from Briger, who'd seen the post. As the two men talked, they grew angrier.

"We've got to stop these people," said Briger.

"Burns, this goddamned ass----, can you believe how despicable he is?" Burke replied. "I mean, they're pumping massive amounts of nicotine into kids."

"These people should go to jail," Briger said.

The two men decided that their neighbor, Burns, and his company needed to pay. "The only way is to play hardball with them," Briger said. "To make it uncomfortable for them. To let everybody know that people in our community are making money off this."

INSIGHT COVER STORY

Burke knew someone they could ask for help. The 2018 Stanford football season was just getting under way. Burke was a die-hard fan. He'd had season tickets, with the same seats in the upper deck, for years. And for as long as he could remember, the same person had had the seats right in front of him: Jim Steyer.

Many people knew Steyer because of his younger brother, Tom, the billionaire founder of the San Francisco hedge fund Farallon Capital Management. Jim was eminent in his own right, as a civil rights professor at Stanford and longtime advocate for children. In 2003, he'd started another nonprofit, Common Sense Media. Originally a source for movie and media ratings for parents, it had become a grassroots army, with almost 150 million users.

Just before kickoff, Burke and Steyer were catching up – about their summers, their families, the kids' plans for the year. Then Burke brought up vaping.

"Jim, have you heard about Juul?" Burke asked.

"Yeah, of course. I have four children. They're like the new Big Tobacco."

They began swapping stories. Burke told Steyer about Briger's experience. Briger and Steyer knew each other.

"Well, you run the biggest child advocacy group in the country," Burke said. "Do you want to get involved?"

Steyer decided to ask his own children what they knew about Juul. At the time he had a high schooler and three older children. The high schooler not only confirmed that Juul was a big problem but acknowledged that he'd tried it himself. Steyer was incensed. "Do you understand how bad nicotine is?" he chided. His older kids chuckled at his naiveté. "You have no idea, Dad," they said. "People Juul in your class at Stanford, and you don't even know it."

Steyer was in. Meanwhile in New York, a well-connected group of angry mothers whose own children had become all too familiar with Juul began organizing a group that was eventually called Parents Against Vaping E-cigarettes, or PAVE.

By the fall of 2018, a formidable group of wealthy parents whose children had fallen prey to nicotine addiction, from Atherton to San Francisco to New York City, were organizing in various ways to stop it.

Over the next year the fury of powerful parents like Briger, Burke, and Steyer was echoed by more American moms and dads who'd discovered Juul devices stashed in their kids' backpacks or colorful plastic nicotine pods littering their bedrooms. The tide soon began to turn against Silicon Valley's most dazzling startup.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration began turning up the heat on the company as data showed that millions of middle school and high school students were vaping, a jarring public-health setback after two decades of declines in youth tobacco use. Lawmakers began investigating Juul's marketing practices. State attorneys general began filing lawsuits against the company for its role in stoking the youth nicotine epidemic.

Juul's largest outside investor, the tobacco company Altria, was coming under its own pressure as shareholders railed against its \$12.8 billion in-

vestment in a corporation whose valuation was being written down quarter after quarter.

The Federal Trade Commission has sued to unwind the deal between Juul and Altria, alleging that the two companies engaged in anticompetitive practices. An administrative trial is scheduled for June.

Meanwhile, Juul is waiting as the FDA considers whether to allow its product (and thousands of competing e-cigarette products) to continue to be sold in the U.S., a decision that could arrive this year. Juul has tried to salvage its future by bringing in new lead-

ership, removing its candy-flavored products from the market, and relocating its headquarters to Washington, closer to those who will decide its fate.

The tobacco industry long ago learned that it was reliant on, and had to continually solicit, what it has referred to as "permission from society to exist." Now, Juul is learning the same holds true for itself.

The lesson is worthy of being taught at Stanford: The enemies you least want are the parents of your customers. ■

Adapted from The Devil's Playbook: Big Tobacco, Juul, and the Addiction of a New Generation, publishing May 25.

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INSIGHT OPINION

Inflation scare exactly what the Fed was hoping to avoid

It must be frustrating to make monetary policy at the Federal Reserve these days. Just before Labor Day last year the Fed proudly announced a new strategy that was mainly focused on preventing deflation – falling prices.

Less than a year later, The Fed is under fire for failing to prevent the opposite – inflation. On May 12, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that consumer prices had risen 4.2% in April from a year earlier, the most since 2008.

France's Maginot Line lasted longer.

To some critics, the Fed's emphasis on combating deflation looks like a classic case of generals preparing to fight the last war.

Ben Bernanke, who was Fed chairman from 2006 to 2014, highlighted the risk of the new policy before there even was a new policy. After the Fed he took up residence at the Brookings Institution, where he wrote a series of papers that influenced what became the Fed's new Statement on Longer-Run Goals and Monetary Policy Strategy.

The big idea of Bernanke and others was that the world had entered an era of chronically low inflation and low inflation-adjusted interest rates. In such a world, it's hard to combat economic weakness because there's very little room to cut interest rates – they're already close to the "effective lower bound" of approximately zero.

Worse yet, expectations of average long-run inflation ratchet lower and lower because inflation falls in recessions and never fully rebounds in recoveries.

Bernanke's recommendation to his



former colleagues was to prove their commitment to their long-run inflation target of 2% by vowing to keep rates at zero until inflation averaged 2% for some period of time. Since inflation started out below the target, it would have to run above the target for a while to average 2% over time.

Once that objective was reached, the Fed could finally lift rates off the floor and go back to its old (2012) strategy of trying to hit 2% on the head from month to month. This is more or less

the framework that the Fed adopted last year, when inflation was still below target.

"So what could go wrong?" Bernanke asked in a 2019 blog post that neatly prefigures the current snafu.

When the Fed manages to get inflation above 2%, he wrote, people may not trust the central bank to guide it back down. "If people don't understand or believe the Fed's strategy – if the Fed is imperfectly credible – and their expectations of inflation become un-an-

chored as inflation rises above target, then inflation could be more persistent and the costs of the policy could be much higher than anticipated," Bernanke wrote.

"Imperfectly credible" seems like a good description of the Fed these days. The bond market's estimate of average annual inflation over the next 10 years, as measured by the yield gap between regular and inflation-protected Treasury notes, has soared from around 1% a year ago to over 2.5% now – i.e., from way lower than the Fed wanted it to substantially higher than the Fed wants it.

This has to be hard for architects of the Fed's new strategy such as Richard Clarida, a luminary of monetary economics from Columbia University who became vice chair in 2018. In a May 11 speech he called April's consumer price reading "one data point," and said, "I expect inflation to return to – or perhaps run somewhat above – our 2% longer-run goal in 2022 and 2023."

That depends on how well anchored the public's inflation expectations are, which is questionable.

True, the Fed could shut down inflation fever in a minute with a surprise rate hike tomorrow. But that would undercut its promise to let inflation run above 2% for some period to offset the years when it was below target.

For now, anyway, Fed policymakers seem intent on toughing it out. ■

A version of this column by Peter Coy first appeared on Bloomberg. It does not necessarily reflect the views of Vero Beach 32963.



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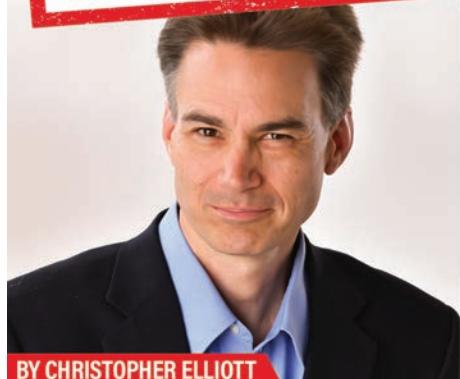
COLUMNISTS The Bonz (Pets), Christopher Elliott (Consumer), Kerry Firth (Health), Ellen Fischer (Features), Ron Holub (Sports), Tina Rondeau (Restaurants)

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INSIGHT WORLD NEWS AND OPINION



TEMPUR-PEDIC WON'T HONOR ITS RETURN POLICY. CAN YOU HELP GET MY \$4,827 BACK?



BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

When Tatiana Litvin tries to return her Tempur-Pedic bed, the company promises a quick return. But it's been two months. When will someone pick up her mattress – and return her money?

QUESTION:

Can you help get Tempur-Pedic to honor its return policy? I recently bought a bed from Tempur-Pedic with the understanding that I could return it within 30 days.

The mattress isn't working for me. It

lets off gases and smells bad. I initiated a return, and a Tempur-Pedic representative assured me that someone would pick up my mattress within one to two weeks. After that, the company would refund my credit card.

It's now been almost two months. No one has contacted me to complete the pick-up of the mat-tress. I've called Tempur-Pedic over ten times. A representative told me to contact a third party called NVC Logistics Group to arrange a pickup. When I did, they told me they have no record of this return or pick up requested by Tempur-Pedic.

I've already called Tempur-Pedic repeatedly about this, and none of the reps were capable of assisting me. They just keep saying they called NVC to arrange a pickup, but pick up and NVC keeps saying that they haven't.

At this point, because Tempur-Pedic has been giving me the runaround, I reported this to the Better Business Bureau in the hopes that they will finally honor their return policy. They didn't



bother to reply to the complaint. Can you help me get my \$4,827 back?

ANSWER:

I'm sorry to hear about your gaseous bed. That does not sound appealing to me. And if you spend \$4,827 on a luxury bed, you have every right to expect a swift return.

Tempur-Pedic's return policy is clear. It promises that you'll "fall in love with your mattress" – or your money back. You have 30 nights (during the first 90 nights of ownership) to try your new Tempur-Pedic. If it doesn't work out and you don't love your new mattress, it will take the mattress back and refund your money, less shipping charges.

There's no timeline on product re-

turns, but I think it's fair to assume that it will happen quickly. A representative told you the return would take place within one to two weeks. That sounds about right.

I recommended that you reach out to the managers at Tempur-Pedic (owned by Sealy). I list the names, numbers and email addresses on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. Unfortunately, that didn't work.

I don't think it's fair of Tempur-Pedic – or any other company – to make you deal with a third party. Nor is it fair to make their pickup problem your problem. Someone from Tempur-Pedic should have taken ownership of your return request and seen it through to the end.

I contacted Tempur-Pedic on your behalf. It arranged for a prompt pickup and refunded your purchase back to your credit card. ■

Get help with any consumer problem by contacting Christopher Elliott at <http://www.elliott.org/help>

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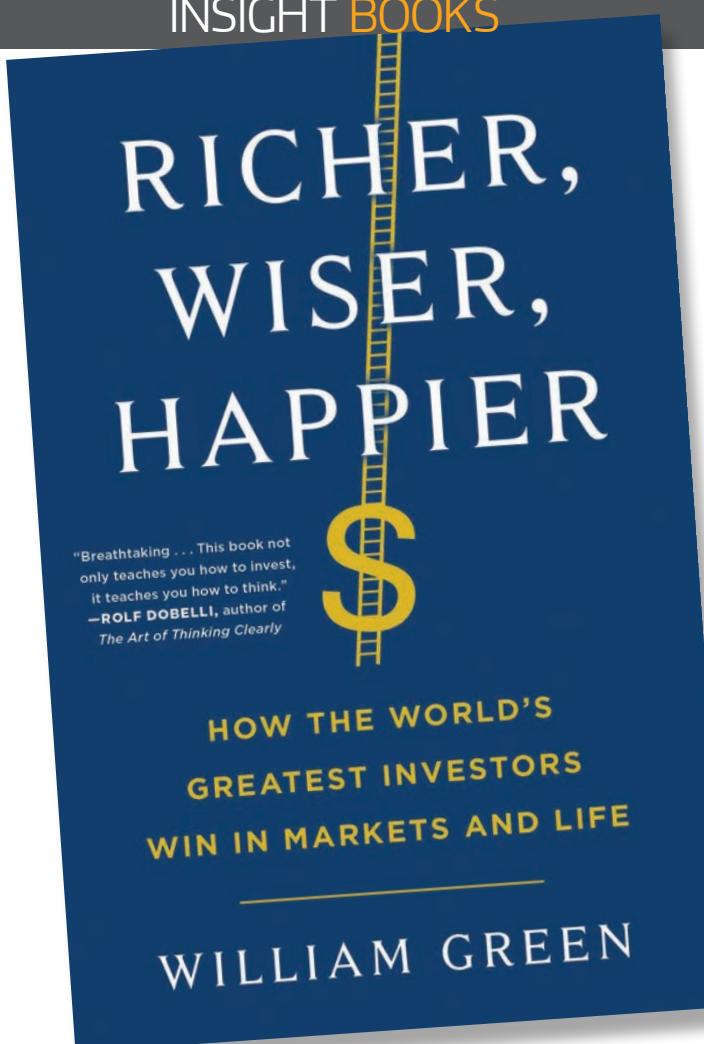
INSIGHT BOOKS

William Green's new book, "Richer, Wiser, Happier: How the World's Greatest Investors Win in Markets and Life," offers an immensely alluring promise: By learning the secrets of great investors, from the famous, like Charlie Munger and Sir John Templeton, to those who deliberately fly below the radar, like Nick Sleep and Laura Geritz, we too can be as successful as they are, in business and in life.

Most of the featured investors are acolytes of Warren Buffett and Munger, and while there's little of their wisdom any casual student of investing won't have encountered before, hearing their maxims through the voices of others renders them as fresh as they can be. Other conventional insights resonate because Green is a good storyteller. He recounts how Howard Marks, a co-chairman of Oaktree Capital Management, which manages \$120 billion and specializes in less-well-trodden areas of the market like distressed debt, keeps in his wallet a folded \$5 bill that he found in the Harvard Business School library as a reminder of the limitations of the efficient-market theory (which essentially posits that \$5 bills don't lie around waiting to be picked up). The experience helps remind him to avoid the most efficient markets and focus exclusively on less-efficient ones.

There's also a wealth (pun intended) of less-obvious insights. Ken Shubin Stein, a doctor turned hedge fund manager turned Columbia University professor, explains that to invest successfully, you have to know your own mind. He says that for his part, he's highly susceptible to "authority bias," which has led him to place too much faith in stocks owned by investment luminaries whom he admires. To help counter this, he always asks himself, "Have I done the work?" Jeffrey Gundlach, a "brash and brilliant billionaire known as the King of Bonds," says he's wrong about 30 percent of the time. So before he makes an investment, he asks, "If I assume that I'm wrong on this, what's the consequence going to be?" His advice: "Make your mistakes nonfatal."

There's also some wonderful history. In 1939, as the world was going to war, the man who would become Sir John Templeton opened the Wall Street Journal, picked 104 American companies whose stocks were selling for \$1 or less, and invested \$100 in each of them. As war raged, the Dow fell to a generational low of 92, and stocks became so synonymous with risk that New York state insurance regulators banned them from the portfolios of insurance companies. Templeton stuck with his bet. He ended up making five times his money. Six decades later, in 1999, he shorted a basket of dot-com stocks that were adored by the crowd, and when the bubble popped in March



2000, he earned a profit of more than \$90 million.

Green's book does suffer from some of the same flaws that affect most investing "how tos." We're told over and over again that, as famed investor Joel Greenblatt, the founder of Gotham Capital, says, the entire secret of successful stock picking comes down to this: "Figure out what something is worth and pay a lot less." Or as Benjamin Graham, the inventor of value investing and the intellectual forefather of Buffett, Munger and most of the investors in this book, said, make sure you have a "margin of safety."

Well, yes, but that's way easier said than done.

The book also backfires in its implicit promise that the secrets of great investors can be synthesized into consistency. They can't. Investors like Mohnish Pabrai, Greenblatt and Sleep often invest almost all of their money in just a few stocks. That's contrary to the advice given by Graham, who says diversification is key, and contrary to what's done by many of the other featured investors, like Jean-Marie Eveillard, who began running SoGen International in 1979 and who routinely owned more than 100 stocks.

Many of the investors talk about how they have created systems to mitigate risk, to the point that Green writes, "Adopting systematic analytical procedures is the sixth strategy in our epic quest to be non-idiotic." But former SAC Capital hedge fund manager Jason Karp argues that every system is doomed to fail. He became frustrated with running his fund because, he says, there was no "clear linkage between process and outcome." He added, "There's so much randomness that it can drive you insane."

In fact, the book almost proves that you can't emulate these investors. Greenblatt, for instance, set up a preapproved list of stocks people could buy and gave them two options: They could either make their own decisions about when to buy and sell, or follow a predetermined system. When Greenblatt studied thousands of clients' accounts, he was shocked to discover how much worse the DIY investors performed: They failed to beat the S&P 500, whereas the group that followed the system beat the S&P by 21.4 percentage points. "Their 'judgment' had transformed a market-beating strategy into a market-trailing dud," Green writes. "It was a startling display of self-sabotage."

Green's real message may be "don't try this at home," but his book still offers many nuggets of wisdom. Great investors are rarely just money minds but also, as Green writes, "seekers of what the economist John Maynard Keynes called 'worldly wisdom.'" They study fields ranging from economic history to neuroscience to literature to stoicism to the science of habit formation, and try to use the insights they glean to make themselves better investors. You don't have to apply their insights to investing to appreciate them. Take Marks, who has long been a student of Buddhism, which has led him to admit that he can't predict or control the future. As a result, he says, he is more humble than he might otherwise be.

The reason to read this book is not so much that it contains a recipe for anything, but rather that it offers a smorgasbord of ideas from which you can pick and choose what works for you. ■

RICHER, WISER, HAPPIER
*HOW THE WORLD'S GREATEST INVESTORS
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REVIEW BY BETHANY MCLEAN, THE WASHINGTON POST

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INSIGHT BRIDGE

SLAM THE OPPONENTS WITH MAKING SLAMS

By Phillip Alder - Bridge Columnist

Friedrich von Logau wrote, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow translated, "Joy, temperance, and repose / Slam the door on the doctor's nose."

If you slam the door on your bridge opponents' noses by bidding and making a slam, you and your partner will be joyful, especially if you are playing for money.

You should have a slam about every 24 boards. But my wife, Kitty, and I had four in 10 deals playing at Bridge Base Online last month. Let's take them in chronological order.

How would you play in seven diamonds after a trump lead with both opponents following?

Note that my initial response was one diamond, not one spade. With a good hand, bid your longest suit first. Not only does one diamond not deny a four-card major, it does not deny two four-card majors!

Then Kitty made a well-judged raise to three diamonds. We are believers in the Losing Trick Count, and her hand had only six losers, one fewer than a minimum opening.

I immediately launched Roman Key Card Blackwood, learning that she had one ace (five diamonds), the diamond queen and the spade king (five spades). That was enough for me.

I won the first trick with my diamond king, cashed the heart ace, ruffed a heart with the diamond nine, returned to hand with a trump, ruffed my last heart with the diamond queen and claimed 13 tricks: three spades, one heart, five diamonds, two clubs and those two heart ruffs.

Surprisingly, we were the only pair in seven. Five were in six diamonds and nine in game.



NORTH			
♠ K Q 8	♥ J	♦ Q 9 4 2	♣ A K 10 8 3
WEST			
♠ J 9 6 3	♥ K 10 7 2	♦ 7 6	♣ J 7 5
EAST			
♠ 4 2	♥ Q 8 6 5 4	♦ 8 3	♣ Q 9 4 2
SOUTH			
♠ A 10 7 5	♥ A 9 3	♦ A K J 10 5	♣ 6

Dealer: North; Vulnerable: Both

The Bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	OPENING LEAD:
1 Diamonds	Pass	1 Clubs	Pass	
4 NT	Pass	3 Diamonds	Pass	
5 Hearts	Pass	5 Diamonds	Pass	
7 Diamonds	Pass	5 Spades	Pass	
		Pass	Pass	7 Diamonds

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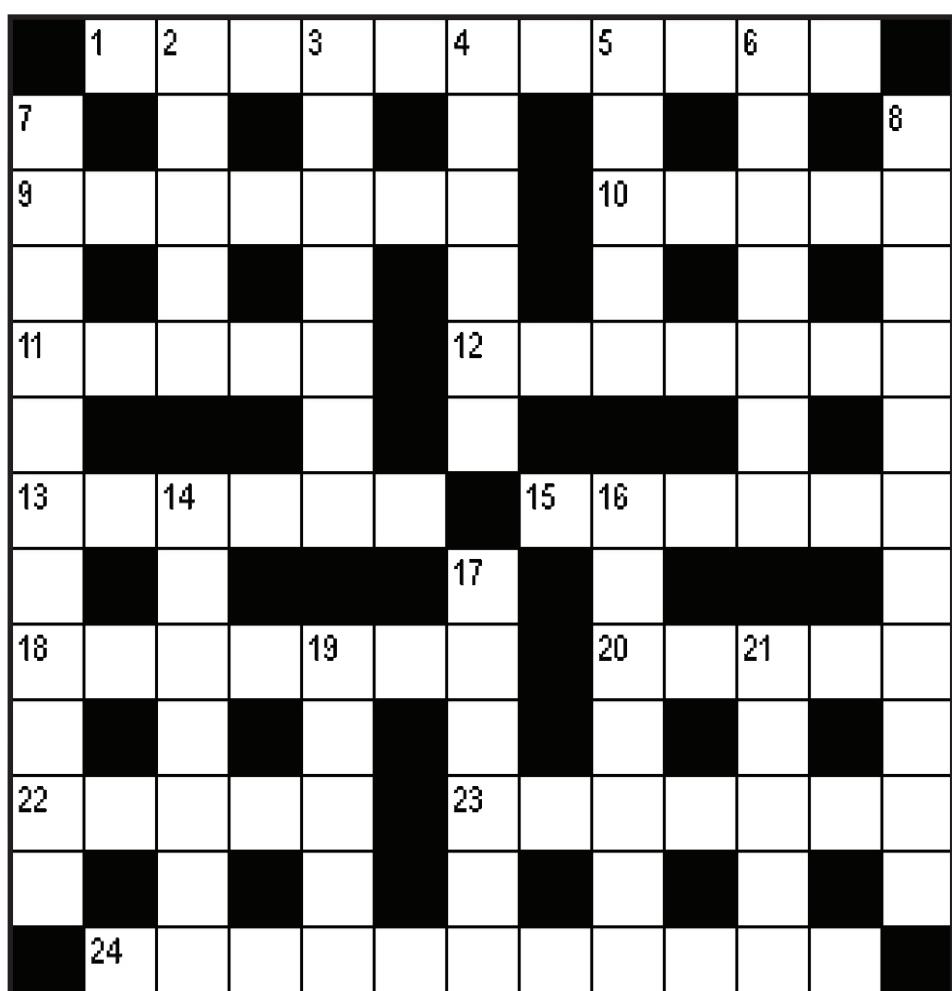


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INSIGHT GAMES



The Telegraph

SOLUTIONS TO PREVIOUS ISSUE (MAY 13) ON PAGE 62

ACROSS

1 Goods (11)
9 Recommend (7)
10 Human body's trunk (5)
11 Weird (5)
12 Reserve (7)
13 Reliable (6)
15 Feature (6)
18 Permits (7)
20 Surpass (5)
22 Proprietor (5)
23 Redress (7)
24 Extensive superstore(11)

DOWN

2 Avid (5)
3 Balmy (7)
4 Part of a stamen (6)
5 Dissuade (5)
6 Exterior (7)
7 Flamboyance (11)
8 Child's allowance(6,5)
14 Strange (7)
16 Bung (7)
17 Respect (6)
19 Eagle's nest (5)
21 Vestige (5)

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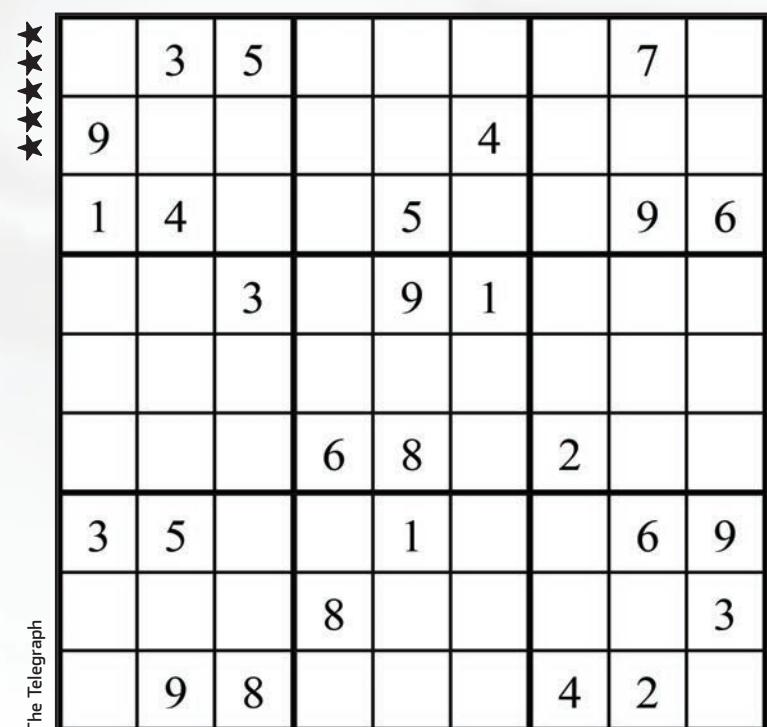
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Fill in the grid so the numbers one through nine appear just once in every column, row and three-by-three square.



INSIGHT GAMES

ACROSS

1 Int'l bank busted in 1992
 5 Work on somebody?
 8 Ms. Farrow
 11 Fetching buys
 16 Ringo's preference?
 19 How this ans. reads
 20 Sequentialize
 21 1950s group popular around Thanksgiving?
 22 Thanksgiving topic?
 24 Long periods
 25 Photography compound, silver ___
 27 Post-mishap comments from toddlers
 28 Loon Lake author's initials.
 29 Jacks, keepaway, etc.
 30 Extraordinary examples
 32 Freeway nightmare
 35 Ishmael, for one
 37 What the food fight was?
 41 Popular brand of dye
 42 Choreographer Alonso and actress Silverstone
 43 Hse. debts
 44 "Dream Lover" singer
 47 Arctic Ocean sea
 49 Serious search
 50 Élève's place
 51 More upright
 52 Legend, for one
 54 Result of the bread tray overturning?
 60 Before of yore
 61 Raison d'___
 62 Old English coins
 63 What your spinal cord and brain are part of: abbr.
 64 Get impatient with the bird?
 72 Turner and Wood
 73 Short evening of theater
 74 Extended families
 75 Rio de la ___
 77 Big Mac needs
 78 Stopper
 79 Longest French river
 80 More impudent
 82 In the style of
 83 Thanksgiving dishes?
 85 TV Honeymooner
 90 Charlie Kane's best friend in Welles classic
 91 ___ trot (antsy)
 92 "I could crush you

like ___!"

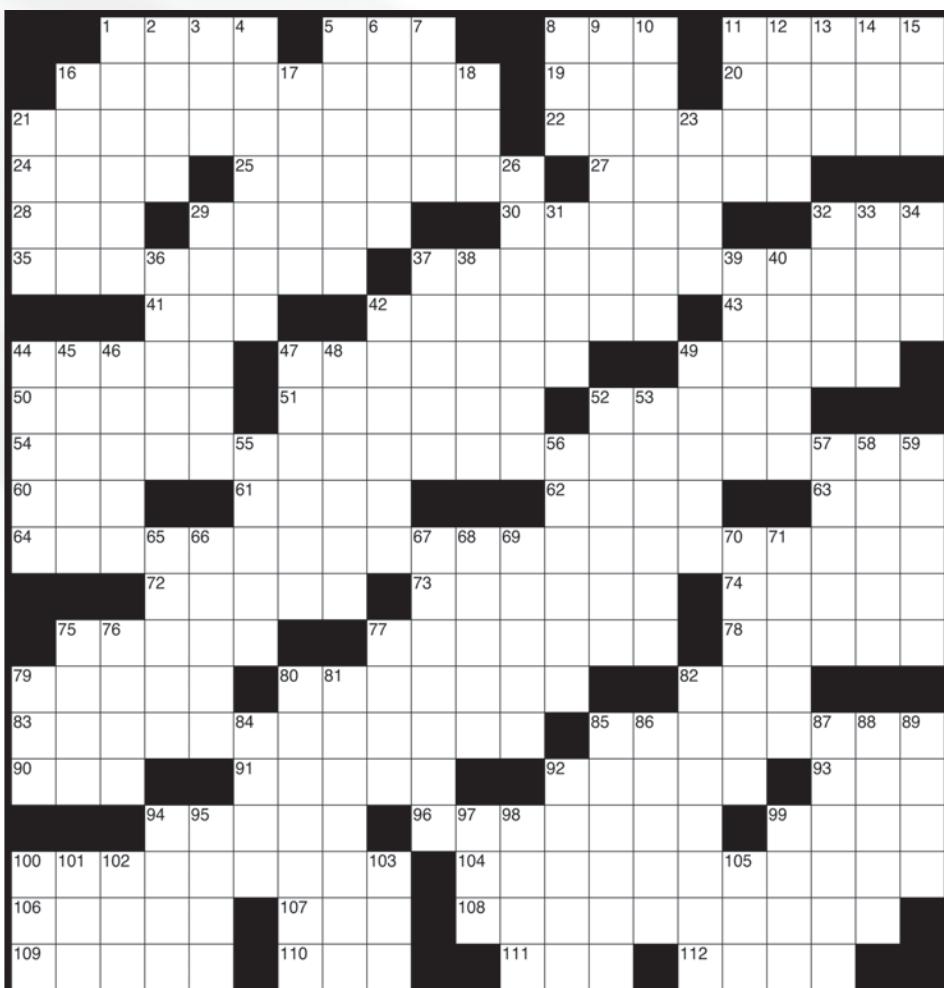
93 Gone by
 94 Million-to-one shot
 96 Queen's Mercury
 99 Auto pioneer
 100 When you might have white meat?
 104 Q. "Is filet mignon we are having, comrade?"
 A. "No, ___"
 106 Olive chaser
 107 Society-page word
 108 Teach a child not to spill?
 109 Like Ricky, but not Lucy
 110 Eponymous ice cream maker
 111 Fueling finale
 112 ___ kleine nachtmusik

DOWN

1 Lee, Starr, or Vaccaro
 2 Java containers
 3 Nero's 950
 4 "Dying ___" (Sylvia Plath)
 5 Rife with regret
 6 Cake completers
 7 Gumbo need
 8 ___-jongg
 9 ___ been a contendu
 10 Schopenhauer and C. Clark
 11 Roo's friend
 12 Part of A & E
 13 Contemporary of Ava, Rita and Bette
 14 Cut or cover ending
 15 Rush-hr. bus condition
 16 Wild dog of India
 17 Countdown terminology
 18 Former jet of the Jet Set
 21 Golf thingies
 23 Put (a question)
 26 Part of EEG
 29 General for whom a Florida city is named
 31 Milla 18 author
 32 Little dances
 33 "Throw ___ over him!"
 34 Some sports cars
 36 Amenity
 37 Oily liquid
 38 Grew as grapes do
 39 Blue cartoon character
 40 Incredible bargain
 42 Counters a contention

44 Gervais series set in a nursing home
 45 Oak-to-be
 46 Logrolling contest
 47 Big gun's name
 48 Thinks the world of
 49 Caine Mutiny captain
 52 In ___ (pronto)
 53 Sounds of war, perhaps
 55 Insurance giant
 56 "Foul!"
 57 Group of eight
 58 QB's hiking instruction, perhaps
 59 Largest div. of the former Soviet Union
 65 David Copperfield's faithful nurse
 66 Jackson and Smith
 67 The ___ the town
 68 Free a granny
 69 Celeb events
 70 Wild cat
 71 Of an arm bone
 75 Minute orifice
 76 Broke a courtroom promise
 77 H.S. test
 79 War on Poverty pres.
 80 Gonzaga University city
 81 Tampered with
 82 Homophone of 33 Down
 84 "Sound" of a lame joke
 85 Salad green
 86 Grocery section
 87 Its advent hurt John Gilbert
 88 Utah city
 89 Like Jake in Chinatown (to his dismay)
 92 Seller feller?
 94 Greek cheese
 95 Author Hubbard
 97 Buckboard or 18-wheeler
 98 University founder Cornell
 99 Birthplace of Yves Saint-Laurent
 100 Easy comparison?
 101 Singer silencer
 102 Swift's The Tale of a ___
 103 Under-the-mat item
 105 Swiss canton

The Washington Post

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				5			
7	5	4					8
		3			9	1	5

The Telegraph

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Ryan Barnett



Yziel Borrero



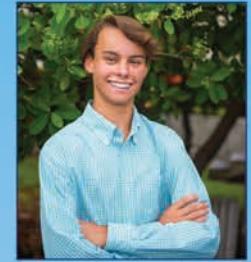
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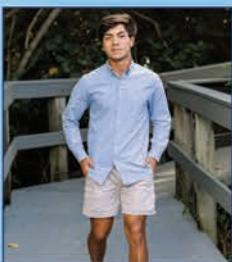
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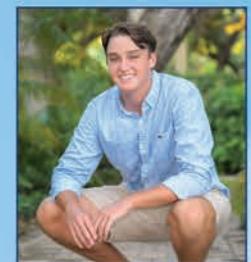
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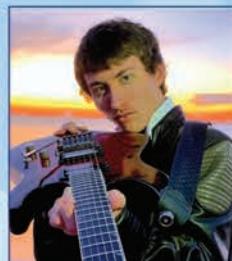
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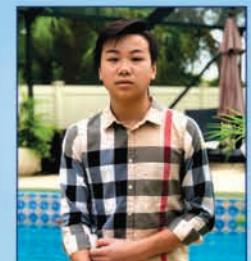
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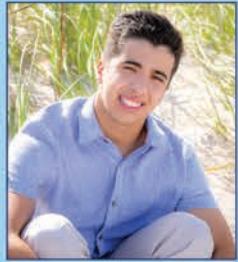
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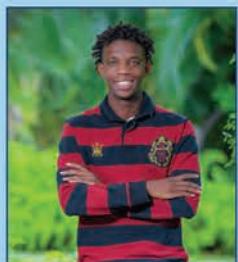
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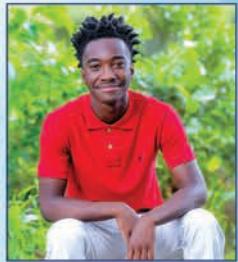
Ross Sams



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INSIGHT BACK PAGE

Is it appropriate for bride to request cash wedding gifts?



BY CAROLYN HAX
Washington Post

Dear Carolyn: My beautiful, thoughtful daughter is getting married later this year. She is paying for much of the wedding with money she has frugally tucked away.

Rather than traditional gifts, she wants to request cash toward improving her new, fixer-upper home.

I am appalled at this. I am told, lovingly, that I am out of touch with today's trends. I respect it is her decision, but I can't let it go yet without persisting.

*Your thoughts on this seemingly popular new trend?
—Appalled*

Appalled: I used to fight this myself. I will probably never come around fully on the idea of shaking down guests for cash.

But other cultures have had money-collection vessels at wedding receptions for ages and their societies haven't all died off from tackiness. Meanwhile, real arguments against the "traditional" have been piling up for years. Decades.

First, the idea that couples move from their parents' homes into their first, marital home hasn't been a large-scale reality since I was a late-midcentury-modern kid, and even then I might have gotten that vision from movies. So even the couples who aren't already living together already have more toasters than



WE'RE MAKING ALL OF OUR OWN
HOUSEWARES OUT OF CASH.

they have occasions to toast. Wedding guests just don't need to build nests anymore with their – optional, always! – gifts. Unless the couple wants them to. (It is/was a lovely notion.)

Second, the idea of replacing miscellaneous accrued bachelor/ette stuff with expensive coordinated marital stuff barely got a foothold before it dawned that 1. Life phases are hardly so tidy, and it's suffocating to treat them as such; and 2. Our attachment to stuff and stuff upgrades is killing the planet, and eventually us along with it. Which really kills the buzz of a sleek new martini set. So anyone who says no-thanks to a

traditional registry or a separate set of fancy-occasion whatevers "for entertaining" is actually kind of a hero.

If you're a collector or entertainer, of course, then have at it. We just need to uncouple life milestones from acquisition.

And that's before, third, getting into the moral and emotional math of wealth inequality – in which guests who aren't of means are nudged to part with high-value cash for things a couple won't need except to maintain polite appearances for their parents. A registry can help guests know what to buy, and I've used some gratefully, but they're only as good as the items are needed, wanted, reasonable.

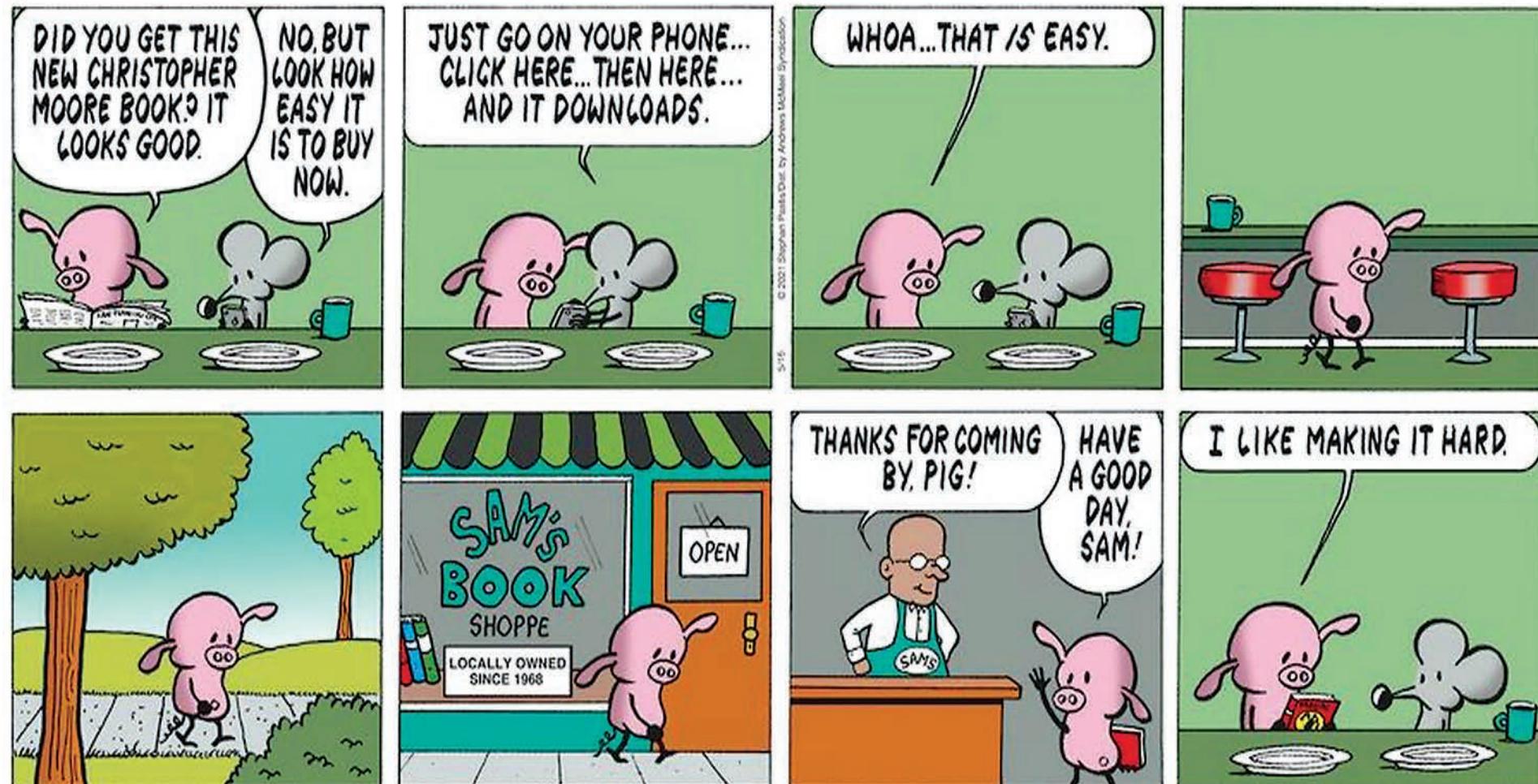
Not to mention, fourth, especially now: Maybe we're all poised to dust off our party sets the nanosecond it feels safe to party with other humans again, but that would be a hairpin cultural turn. We barely make it to tables for meals now, much less ones set with china.

So what are etiquette-minded wedding guests and hosts supposed to do? Give up, go cash, be grateful for the fig leaves available to those who – bless them all – can't countenance asking for money. Mostly, they can "register" for just about everything they'd buy if someone handed them cash. Mortified parents can also spread the gospel of targeted gift cards among their judging-inclined, trend-immune friends.

Otherwise: Her wedding. Let go.

Memo to gift die-hards: Make sure it has either KNOWN value to the couple, or a receipt and no guilt-strings attached. On-trend till death do all of us part. ■

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



BY STEPHAN PASTIS

32963

Arts & Theatre



**GALLERIST ROWE'S PASSION FOR
PAINTING KNOWS NO BOUNDS**

ARTS & THEATRE

GALLERIST ROWE'S PASSION FOR PAINTING KNOWS NO BOUNDS

BY STEPHANIE LABAFF | STAFF WRITER

Artist Lori Rowe, a welcome addition to the Vero Beach arts community, recently opened The Rowe Gallery on Royal Palm Pointe, which features her own artwork.

A self-taught artist who describes her work as contemporary impressionist, Rowe returned to Florida not long ago, after having spent a lifetime on the road; first as an Army brat and later traveling with husband Gregory. As a quality engineer involved with the construction and decommissioning of power plants, primarily nuclear plants, his work had them on the move about every six months for some 17 years.

As they traversed the country, the lifestyle afforded her an opportunity to pursue an interest in the arts. She initially dabbled in watercolor, one



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of the more complex mediums to master. Despite its being unforgiving and unpredictable, she says it was the easiest to manage given their RV lifestyle.

While they did not live in any one place long enough for her to settle

into any one art form, art became her outlet and Rowe filled her time on the road experimenting with various techniques and styles.

At one point, when Gregory was working on a project in Long Island, Rowe says they needed to rent a house



as there was no place nearby where they could live in the RV. It was during that period of time that she "spread her wings" and began to dabble in oils.

"I was a watercolorist for 10 years, then I took a class with Iris Scott and fell in love with oils. I took this class, and I never went back," says Rowe.



Scott is a well-known finger-painting artist who has dedicated her career to the art form she describes as Instinctualism.

"Finger painting is very different. It's very messy. It's a love-hate process. It's infuriating at times," says Rowe, adding that she soon gained enough confidence to begin entering her work into a handful of shows.

"The first show I entered, I actually won third place in acrylics. I dabbled with acrylics for a minute. That's all it took to really encourage me to get going a little bit more," recalls Rowe.

An animal lover – her three Austra-

lian Shepherds can attest to it – Rowe sent one of her dog paintings to support a fundraiser sponsored by Strays of Abu Dhabi at the Millennium Hotel there. Much to her surprise, the painting ended up being used as the featured face for the nonprofit's fundraising poster.

Before long, Rowe says, her work was becoming more recognizable, and she soon had more requests for it than she could handle.

"I had them backed up on top of each other," says Rowe.

For years, her husband had been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 42

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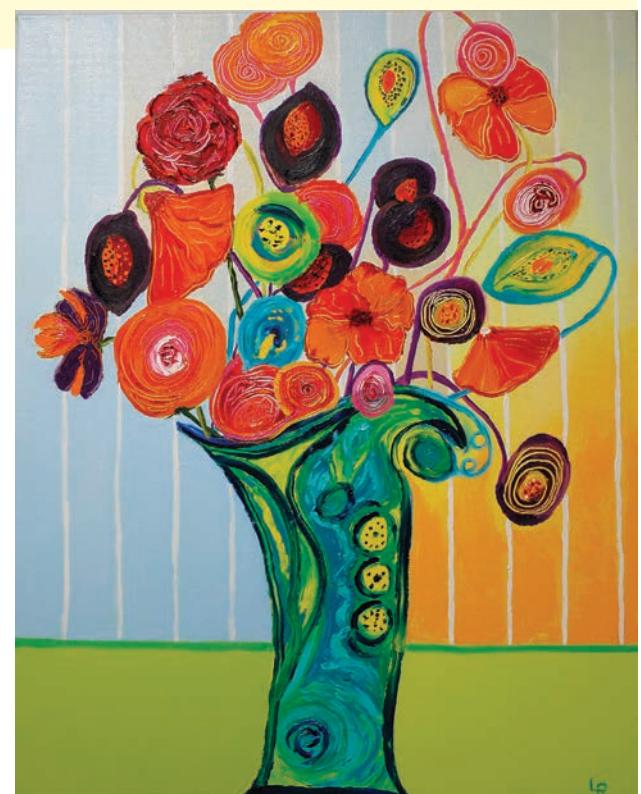


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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

pushing her to do more with her art and, after a bout with breast cancer, she finally decided she had nothing to lose.

By then the couple was living in Borrego Springs, Calif., where she stumbled across a vacant storefront that she felt was the ideal spot to expand her reach.

"It was the perfect place for recovery. I think I got myself back a little bit there," says Rowe.

During their time in that quaint, artsy village of 3,000 residents in the middle of the desert—Borrego Springs is surrounded by the Anza-Borrego State Park, the largest state park in California—Rowe's gallery garnered

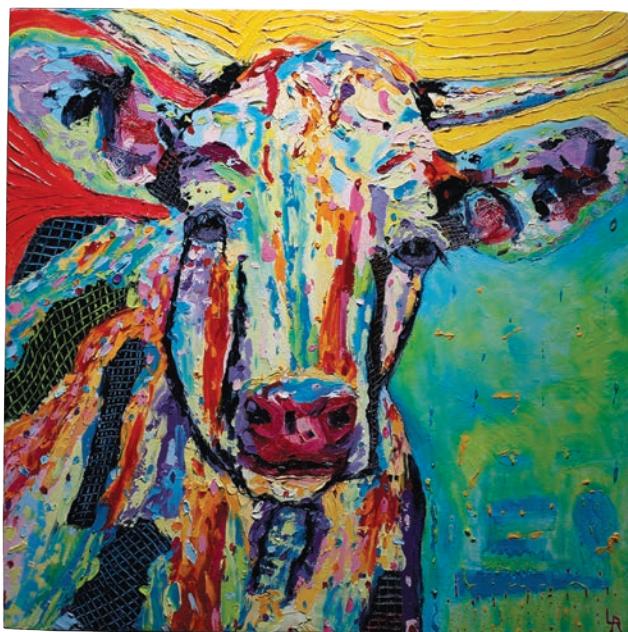
quite a following through word of mouth from visitors to the town.

Prescribing to a philosophy of "no rules," Rowe now paints whatever she feels like and uses whatever tools spark her fancy at the time—brushwork, a palette knife, her fingers, impasto, and anything else within reach.

"I finally found my niche. I paint

the canvases these days, with palm trees and beach scenes popping up, and she is currently working on a sea turtle.

Continuing with a stroll through the studio, there are hints of inspiration from Master Artists such as Claude Monet, along with the more modern influences of artists such as Scott, whose work enticed Rowe to



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what I want to paint," she says, adding that she considers herself a contemporary impressionist with some abstract leanings.

Walking through the gallery and studio space, several vibrant cows boldly stand out for their lively colors.

"They are certainly in no way true to life," says Rowe.

Despite that, she adds, "I do tend toward some realism. When I do my animals, you will always see a real eye. That's the first thing I do because then they're alive. Even though that's the only thing on my canvas in there, it's now alive, and I work from there."

A bit of Florida is also appearing on

expand from palette knives into finger painting.

Today, Rowe's passion knows no bounds. And soon, her oil paintings won't be the only works to admire in the gallery, as she plans to add in pieces by artists in various other mediums, including photography and ceramics.

"I'm always happy to have visitors and share a cup of coffee," says Rowe, inviting folks to stop by to view her works and the process.

The Rowe Gallery, located at 46 Royal Palm Pointe, is open Thursday through Sunday. For more information, visit therowegallery.com. ■

ARTS & THEATRE

COMING UP!

Meet 'Human Element' artists at the Emerson



Keila Small



Sara Alfaro



Mark San Souci



John Biondo



Hector Cruz



Anne Whitney

BY PAM HARBAUGH
Correspondent

1 Out-of-the-ordinary happenings should stir some interest for you in the next few days. They start tonight, Thursday, May 20, at the Emerson Center where you'll be able to mix it up with artists and art patrons at a Meet the Artist Reception for "The Human Element" exhibition. The exhibition comprises "mysterious expressions of the human body" by area artists and photographers: Keila Small, Sara Alfaro, Mark San Souci, John Biondo, Hector Cruz, Amy Saville and Anne Whitney. The reception runs 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibition runs through July 1, 2021. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays. Free admission. Please wear masks. The Emerson Center is at 1590 27th Ave., Vero Beach. Call 772-538-2338.

2 Let the writer in you come out at a special 90-minute interactive Zoom workshop with award-winning mystery and crime fiction writer Libby Fischer Hellman. The workshop is presented by the Laura Riding Jackson Foundation. Hellman has written 16 thrillers and dozens of short stories. She will teach how to build suspense, whether you want to write fiction, memoir or creative non-fiction. The workshop runs 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. this Saturday, May 22. The cost is \$35. To register, visit LauraRidingJackson.org.

3 It may be hard to choose what to do on Sunday, so you might want to do it all, starting with a morning Walking Meditation at the Environmental Learning Center. Held the fourth Sunday of each month, the Walking Meditation takes people through the ELC's intimate Butterfly Garden. Led by Elise Mahovlich of Living Yoga with Elise, beginner and seasoned meditators will keep their eyes open as they break away from the stress of daily living and reconnect to nature and to themselves. ELC executive director Barbara Schlitt Ford said the experience starts first with a brief orientation where you are encouraged to listen, observe and see what the natural world wants to reveal. The Butterfly Garden has a mulch path taking visitors along native plants, tall

shade trees and a fountain with relaxing sounds. "It's a beautiful setting, very conducive (to meditation), a comfortable, quaint, magical little spot," Ford said. The program is part of the ELC's focus on educating, empowering and inspiring all people to be stewards of the environment. Advancing that mission, the ELC offers a whole array of opportunities to reconnect to nature, including wellness retreats, overnight campouts, sunrise and full moon kayak tours, forest therapy and more. The next Walking Meditation runs 11 a.m. to noon Sunday, May 23. The cost is \$15 for non-members with discounts for members, students and seniors 65 and older. After you go to the Walking Meditation, be sure to explore more of the ELC's 65-acre campus. The Environmental Learning Center is at 255 Live Oak Drive, Vero Beach. Call 772-589-5050 or visit DiscoverELC.org.

4 Animal lovers will say the best deal in town happens Sunday afternoon when Mash Monkeys Brewing Company holds a big fundraiser for H.A.L.O. – Helping Animals Live and Overcome. The event, called "Pups, Pints & Pinups," is a collaboration between the H.A.L.O. leadership team and Mash Monkeys owners Derek Gerry and Pat Kirchner. There will be opportunities to adopt a dog, and purchase a pint of craft brew, with \$1 from each pint sold going to H.A.L.O. In addition, H.A.L.O. will also offer beauty makeovers (for the humans) and a special \$25 pinup beauty shot by professional photographer Michael Jackson. Just be sure to bring your own glamor garb. "People are looking forward to getting out, and we thought this would be a cute, fun event to do," said Allyson Bootes, director of development for H.A.L.O. The organization was founded in 2006 to provide a no-kill safe haven for abused and abandoned animals. Last year, there were many foster families that ended up adopting pets, but there were also many people surrendering their pets because they could no longer afford them. Additionally, many pet owners turned to H.A.L.O. to help with medical costs for the pets. "Our current save rate is 97 percent, so people turn to us because they know we are going to do everything in our pow-

er to save that life," Bootes said. Pups, Pints & Pinups runs 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Mash Monkeys Brewing Company, 920 U.S. 1, Sebastian. Call H.A.L.O. at 772-

589-7297 or visit HALORescueFl.org. To reach Mash Monkeys Brewing Company, call 772-571-6283 or visit MashMonkeysBrewing.com. ■

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HEALTH



**HIP RESURFACING CAN BE GOOD
ALTERNATIVE TO REPLACEMENT**

HEALTH

Hip resurfacing can be good alternative to replacement

BY KERRY FIRTH
Correspondent

If you have a hip – or hips – that have become painful and are limiting your activity, you may be thinking of having a hip replacement operation, and that might be the best solution, too. But there is another option for some patients – hip resurfacing.

Hip resurfacing consists of placing a cap – made of cobalt-chrome metal and shaped like a hollow mushroom – over the head of the femur while a matching metal cup is placed in the pelvis socket, replacing the articulating surfaces of the hip joint while removing very little bone compared to a total hip replacement.

"Cleveland Clinic is the largest resurfacing clinic in the world," said Dr. Anas Saleh, an orthopedic surgeon at Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital who is one of a select group of physicians proficient at the procedure.

"A total hip replacement has a socket and ball component to it which articulates with the socket, but it also has a long stem that goes into the thigh



Dr. Anas Saleh.
PHOTOS: KAILA JONES

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JULIE A. CROMER, DDS

HEALTH

bone. Resurfacing also has a socket, but instead of having a ball and stem, it's actually a metal cap. The difference between total replacement and resurfacing is like the difference between putting a hat on your head or cutting it off. The procedure is more precise and less forgiving, so you really need a surgeon who has done the resurfacing multiple times. Frequency is the key to expertise.

"Resurfacing is really best suited for younger males with strong bones," Dr. Saleh continued. "Because we are putting a cap on the femoral head instead of cutting off, we are preserving the bone and it actually solves some of the issues we have with a traditional total hip replacement. It eliminates the risk for both dislocation and limb length discrepancy. With resurfacing you really don't change the length at all. Many high-profile athletes have opted for hip resurfacing because it allows for unrestricted activity and they can go back to high impact sports."

Hip resurfacing is seldom done on females because there is a higher risk of complication with smaller implant size, and, on average, female joints are smaller than male ones. There are companies working on ceramic resurfacings that will be more suited for females.

Mayo Clinic identifies three major sources of hip joint pain – osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and osteonecrosis.

Osteoarthritis, also known as wear-and-tear arthritis, causes damage to the cartilage covering the ends of the bones, which prevents the joints from moving smoothly and inhibits activity.

Rheumatoid arthritis, caused by an overactive immune system, causes inflammation that can erode cartilage and underlying bone, resulting in damaged and deformed joints.

Osteonecrosis is a condition where there isn't enough blood supplied to the ball portion of the hip joint; it can also occur in a dislocation or fracture that causes the bone to collapse or deform resulting in painful hip joints.

Happily, hip surgeries are among the most successful orthopedic procedures and can dramatically improve the quality of life for someone living with hip pain.

The success rates for hip replacement surgery and hip resurfacing are high, with about 95 percent of patients experiencing relief from hip pain. The success rate of hip replacements 10 years after surgery is 90-to-95 percent and at 20 years 80-to-85 percent. Should an implant wear or loosen, revision to a new hip replacement is possible.

"Total hip and resurfacing metal components last almost forever once they grow into the bone, so any adjust-

ments would be made to the bearing surface. The newer generation ceramic on polyethylene implants can last up to 30 years," Dr. Saleh said.

Recovery from hip replacement or resurfacing is fairly easy. The wound takes about two weeks to heal, and most people are driving by three weeks and functioning well within four to six weeks. Those with sedentary jobs are back to work between three to six weeks, but those with more labor-intensive jobs may take up to two to three months to be at full capacity.

"Hip replacement is an elective operation and it's ultimately up to the patient to decide if they can live with the

pain," said Dr. Saleh. "The pain won't kill them, but it can lead to functional decline, pulmonary complications and overall deterioration in health. While the risk is minimal ... the benefit of being ambulatory can drastically improve physical and mental well-being."

A consultation with an orthopedic surgeon can identify the treatments or procedures that are best for eliminating your hip joint pain. Most doctors will advise starting with anti-inflammatory medications like Aleve and Motrin, followed by injections of cortisone. In addition, there are gel-like injections that act as synovial fluid and help facilitate

movement and reduce pain.

Once those treatments are exhausted and no longer effective, the surgeon will discuss hip replacement or resurfacing. Treatments selected depend on the severity of the joint deterioration and the patient's overall health.

Dr. Anas Saleh is from Qatar in Eastern Arabia. He was educated at the Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar and completed his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Ohio. After finishing his fellowship at Rush University Medical College in Illinois, he joined the Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital team in Vero Beach. He can be reached at 772-463-2010. ■

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What this means to you – as a patient – is that Liebman will not only fit you with a hearing aid, he'll use alternative methods of testing for accuracy, so you receive the proper instrument. He'll provide all-around service and counseling so its full potential will be clear. And, perhaps most importantly, he'll consider you as an individual...including the affordability of the product he'll be recommending.

This type of kid glove treatment may have contributed to a finding quoted on the AARP website that states 'people fitted for hearing aids by audiologists are 13 times more likely to be satisfied than people who made their purchase through a hearing aid salesman.'

Dr. Liebman's satisfied clients have willingly put their praises into print.

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Hopefully, all of you are doing well as we take the necessary precautions to reduce the spread of Covid-19 (coronavirus). We are committed to keeping our patients, any visitors to our offices and our staff healthy and safe.

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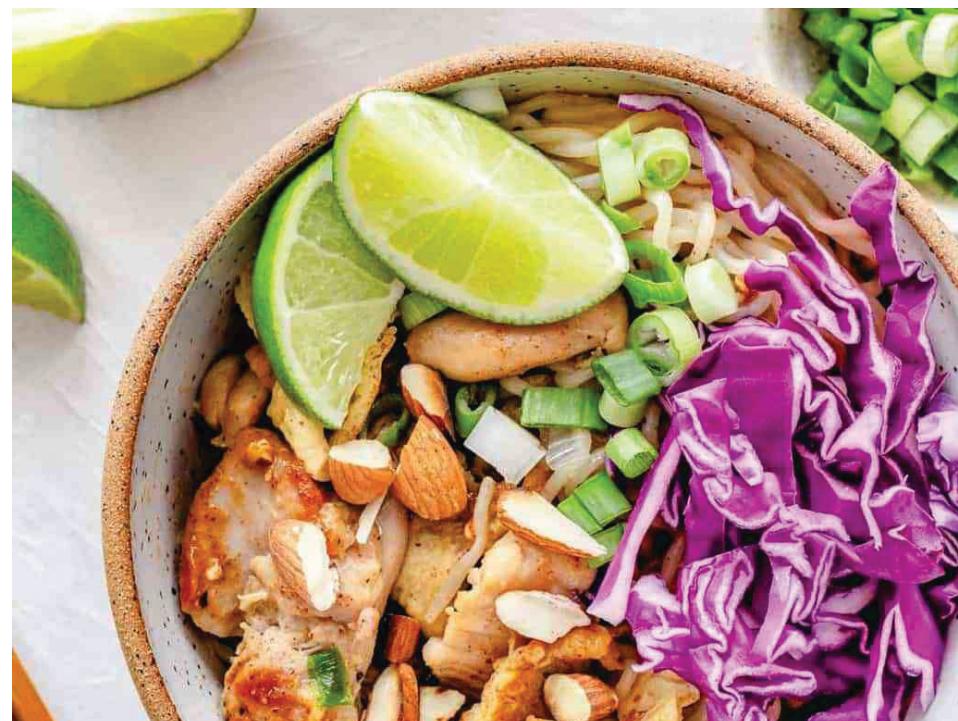
than I thought possible." "Aaron is a very caring man, patient and works very hard to do the best for your problems. I would highly recommend him." These are just three of the glowing testimonials delivered by local people who are "graduates" of Liebman at Aaron's Hearing Aid Center.

Dr. Liebman moved to Florida in 2001. He is originally from Albany, N.Y. area where both he and his father were audiologists. He has found the residents of Vero Beach and the rest of Indian River County to be receptive and loyal once they are exposed to his caring and concern for them.

So, if the concept of having your hearing aid fitted by someone who offers more than 30+ years of experience, who offers no-fee consultations, who will return your phone calls, who will supply free batteries for the life of your hearing instrument, and who will provide quarterly clean up and adjustments attractive to you, there's only one local audiologist to seek out: Dr. Aaron Liebman, owner of Aaron's Hearing Care, the **ONLY AUDIOLOGIST OWNED** hearing aid office in Indian River County.

For more information call (772) 562-5100 in Vero Beach.

Food for thought on making your takeout orders healthier



BY AMY KEATING
The Washington Post

You might be getting takeout meals or food deliveries more frequently than you used to because of the pandemic. Although a homemade meal is usually the healthiest choice, ordering in can be helpful during stressful times, or even when you just don't feel like cooking.

Fortunately, with a few smart strategies, you can maintain healthy eating habits even when you're ordering a meal to go. These tips will help.

Start with the right eatery: Consumer Reports recently rated 17 chain restaurants to see which ones made it easier to opt for a nutritious dish. We scored them on many fac-

tors, including whether the drink options were more or less sugary, the availability of whole grains, the variety of fruits and vegetables, the levels of sodium and saturated fat, and whether you could get healthier protein options, such as fish, legumes, nuts and tofu. Chipotle, Chopt, CoreLife Eatery, Panera Bread and Sweetgreen were some of the highest scorers. Find full ratings at CR.org/fastfood.

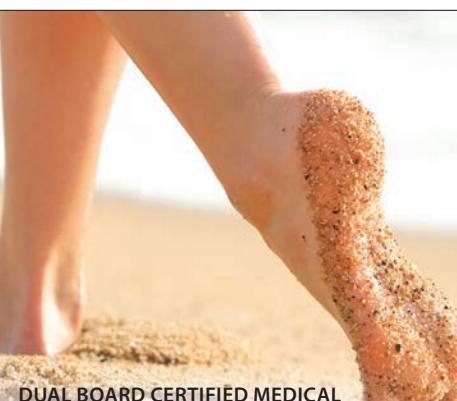
Keep an eye on calories: A dish's calorie count isn't the only measure of whether a meal is good for you, but it may be the only nutrition info you see. In those cases, use it as a guide. CR's testing has found that the counts are generally on target, so try to aim for less than 600 calories for your entire meal. An easy way to keep track is to use

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the chain's mobile ordering app. Many allow you to view how calorie counts for customizable dishes, such as salads and sandwiches, change when you add or subtract ingredients.

Upgrade when you can: Opt for brown rice instead of white, or a whole-grain bun or pasta, if available. Add extra vegetables to a pizza or beans to a taco, burrito or salad.

Sip smartly: Adding a large soda

to your order for just a dollar may seem like a good deal. Unfortunately, all those added sugars will undercut your goal of ordering in a healthier meal. It's wisest to skip drinking soda altogether. Better beverage options include water, unsweetened iced tea or no-sugar-added seltzer, if it's available.

Rethink your sides: Just because your order comes with chips or onion rings by default doesn't mean they're your only option. Ask

whether you can swap them for a salad, a vegetable or fruit. If you're really craving a less healthy side, be extra savvy about your main dish – for instance, if you want the onion rings, have them with a grain bowl or a veggie wrap, not a bacon-topped cheeseburger.

Incorporate home cooking: Have the main dish you've been craving but prep your own accompaniments. For instance, get the pizza or chicken sandwich to lighten the cooking load one night, but skip drinks, fries and extras. Instead, toss your own salad with whatever

vegetables you have on hand; serve your dish with raw sliced carrots, celery and tomato; or heat up a frozen vegetable as a side. Feeling more ambitious? Roast some fresh cauliflower or carrots or steam green beans or broccoli.

Split a dish: Restaurant portions tend to be oversized, which can encourage you to overeat. To avoid this, plan from the outset to share one entree with a family member. Another option: When your food arrives, pack up half and put it in the fridge to save it for the next day's lunch. ■

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This notice is being provided to the patients in accordance with 64B8-10.002(4) Florida Administrative Code and Section 456.057{11}, FLORIDA Statutes.

HEALTH

Retinoids remain the gold standard for fighting wrinkles

BY JANNA MANDELL
The Washington Post

Although they've been around for decades, the vitamin A derivatives known as retinoids remain the gold standard for treating wrinkles and acne, with the skincare and pharmaceutical industries continuing to develop and manufacture new products featuring them. Retinoids – including the most commonly known, retinol – are found in both prescription medications and over-the-counter formulations in a variety of strengths and product types.

But despite their longevity and proven results, these compounds retain the potential for undesirable side effects, such as peeling skin and sun sensitivity. It's important, therefore, to understand the various types of retinoids and the safest ways to incorporate them into a skin-care regimen.

Attempts to use retinoids to tame acne date to the mid-20th century, when tretinoin, a derivative of vitamin A also known as retinoic acid, was studied in Europe for treating skin dis-



orders including acne and skin cancer. Although it was deemed too irritating for practical use, American dermatologist Albert Kligman became determined to find the optimal dosage for acne treatment, which he did. This led to tretinoin's approval by the Food and Drug Administration in 1971, subsequently marketed under the brand name Retin-A.

In 1986, after adult patients using tretinoin to treat acne reported that the

product was also reducing their wrinkles and improving their complexion, Kligman and his associates conducted a study on 400 adult women, concluding that topical tretinoin is capable of at least "partly reversing the structural damages of excessive sunlight exposure and may be useful in decelerating the photoaging process."

Since Kligman's 1986 work, there have been thousands of studies on tretinoin, making it one of the most researched anti-aging ingredients in dermatology. "Tretinoin is considered the gold standard in skin care, because of the extensive body of research that supports how well it works at increasing cell turnover," said Ranella Hirsch, a dermatologist based in Cambridge, Mass. This boost in cell turnover helps increase collagen production, unclog pores, smooth fine lines, reduce the appearance of sun damage and manage dark spots, Hirsch added.

The ability of retinoids to vanquish wrinkles and acne, however, has been accompanied by their reputation for painful side effects, such as peeling, flaking, redness, sun sensitivity, irrita-

tion and, for some skin types, hyperpigmentation.

Evan Rieder, a New York-based dermatologist and psychiatrist at NYU Langone, thinks education about retinoids is as vital as the products themselves. "I have a picture from my sophomore dance in high school where my skin is literally falling off my face from using too much Retin-A to treat my acne," because he wasn't given the right information, he said. "So, part of this is the fault of dermatologists. We need to give people the right information about how to safely and tolerably introduce a retinoid." That means knowing what strength retinoid to start with and how often to apply.

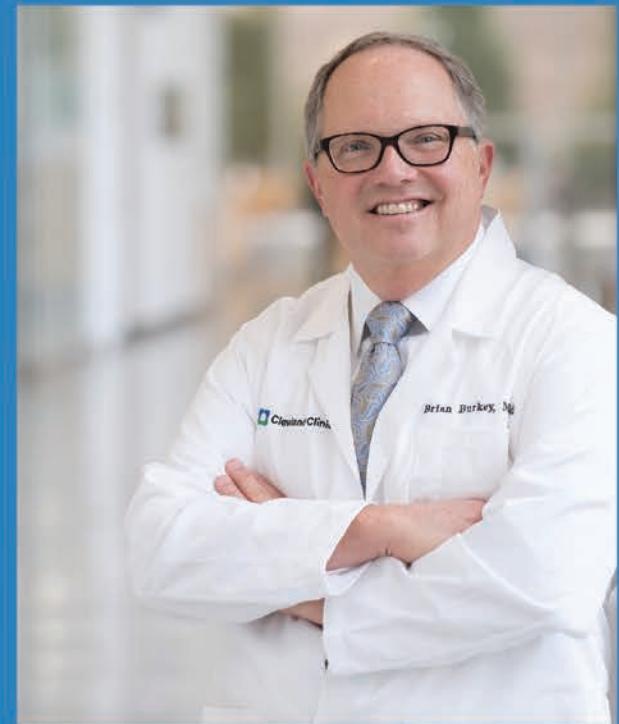
Retinoids are usually categorized by where they fall in the conversion pathway to retinoic acid, which is the strongest and the most likely to cause irritation. "For example, tretinoin is retinoic acid, so it's much more potent than over-the-counter versions, because there is no conversion necessary before it has a biological effect on the skin," said Joshua Zeichner, a New York-based dermatologist and direc-

Brian Burkey, MD Head and Neck Surgeon

Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital welcomes Brian Burkey, MD, to the medical staff. Dr. Burkey is the Institute Chair of Surgical Specialties for Cleveland Clinic in Florida. Before moving to the Treasure Coast, he served as Vice-chairman and Section Head at the Cleveland Clinic Head and Neck Institute in Ohio. Dr. Burkey has a 30-year history of treating tumors and cancers affecting the head and neck, with a special interest in thyroid surgery and parotid surgery.

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HEALTH

tor of cosmetic and clinical research in dermatology at Mount Sinai Hospital. The packaging on over-the-counter items should clearly state which kind of retinoid is in the product; one of the most commonly seen is retinol.

When Hirsch is explaining the difference in retinoid strengths to her patients, she likes to borrow a royal family analogy from author and skin-care expert Caroline Hirons: Think of prescription-strength retinoic acid (tretinoin, Retin-A) as Queen Elizabeth; it's the strongest, because no conversion is necessary. Retinaldehyde (retinal) is Prince Charles, because it's only one conversion away from retinoic acid; retinol is Prince William, because it's two conversions away; and retinoid esters (retinyl palmitate, retinyl acetate and retinyl linoleate) are Prince George, the weakest of the retinoids and usually best tolerated.

"And not everyone needs to get to the queen. Some people will never need more than Prince William or Prince George," Hirsch said.

The key to safely and tolerably introducing a retinoid is not only to start with a low strength but also to only apply a pea size of the retinoid two to three times per week, depending on your skin's tolerability, Rieder said. "I love to start my patients on retinol or

retinaldehyde [retinal] for a month or two, and then transition them to prescription-strength tretinoin," said Sarvenaz Zand, a dermatologist based in Marin County, Calif. "This regimen helps to avoid all the irritation, peeling and redness that you can get with starting a prescription-strength retinoid right off the bat."

Retinoids can treat acne and hyperpigmentation in people with darker skin tones. But if overused, they can cause further hyperpigmentation and dark marks from the peeling and inflammation, said Susan Taylor, a Philadelphia-based dermatologist and founder of the Skin of Color Society.

"Light skin can get red, dry and flaky, but retinoids don't necessarily cause darkness on light skin tones," she said. With patients of color, she said, "I tend to select the lowest concentration, and then slowly titrate up." She often starts by treating these patients with adapalene, which can be found over the counter as Differin, because it is perceived to be a bit milder.

Skin-care brands have developed a new generation of high-strength retinoids in the past few years that are intended to be more easily tolerated by the skin because of the addition of hydrating ingredients to the formulas, such as RoC Retinol, a line that includes

creams and serums; Medik8 Crystal Retinal, sold in four different strengths, so users can slowly titrate up; and Altreno, a prescription medicine from the makers of Retin-A. Though these new formulas are meant to make retinoids more tolerable, you should still expect some irritation, Zeichner said.

"The first two to four weeks of usage, the skin goes through a process called retinization, where your skin adjusts to the application of the product," he said. "And this can lead to redness, dryness, burning, stinging, peeling." If you develop irritation, you need to put your foot on the brakes, use the retinoid less frequently and combine it with a moisturizer to help your skin tolerate it, Zeichner said.

When considering incorporating a retinoid into your skin-care routine, be mindful that retinoids are contraindicated for pregnant women and women planning a pregnancy. Also, you should avoid other products that exfoliate, Robinson said. "This means chemical exfoliants like hydroxy acids and physical exfoliation with any brushes, towels, pads."

She also emphasized that if you have a retinoid in your routine, you should always wear proper sunscreen and moisturizer to prevent irritation. "The biggest issue I see with darker skin

tones and retinoids is if the patient doesn't use adequate sun protection or moisturizer, it can lead to irritation and place the skin at some risk of hyperpigmentation," she said.

Hirsch tells patients to hold off on starting other active skin-care ingredients, such as benzoyl peroxide, hydroxy acids or vitamin C, when incorporating a retinoid. "What I tell patients is that the retinoid needs to be the star of the show. She's a bit of a diva, and you really have to let her have her time to set the stage just the way she wants it before allowing the supporting cast onstage."

Rieder emphasized patience when it comes to seeing results from retinoids, whether using them for the treatment of acne or wrinkles. "I always tell my patients that in the beginning, you're going to ask yourself, 'Why the hell am I doing this to my skin?' after having irritated, flaky skin for weeks and not seeing any difference at all. It's like that six-month point, that one-year point that you really start seeing results. But it's a journey, a long journey."

Zeichner tells his patients that it will be worth it in the end. "It's like going to Hawaii from New York," he said. "It takes you a really long time to get there, but once you get there, you're in paradise." ■



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Style

How 'cheugy' is your style? Here are five ways to find out

BY TAMARA ABRAHAM
The Telegraph

It's Gen-Z's latest insult to older generations, but what is cheugy – and why should you care?

Do you love a designer logo, a slogan tee or a denim jacket? If so, you may be 'cheugy.'

Am I 'cheugy'?

That's the question many have been asking themselves – myself included – over the past week, after a New York Times article identified it as a word Gen-Z types (those born in the mid-'90s or later) have been using to describe people who are "slightly off-trend." The target is often millennials, the oldest of whom are nearing 40 and perhaps not as cool as they think they are.

The word (pronounced chew-gee with a hard G) was originally coined by Los Angeles software developer Gaby Rasson when she was a high school student back in 2013. "It was a category that didn't exist," she said. "There was a missing word that was on the edge of my tongue and



nothing to describe it and 'cheugy' came to me. How it sounded fit the meaning."

Since then, its use has gathered steam and is now widely used on TikTok, the teen-dominated social media platform that allows users to share short videos, but it's only in recent days that those of us who might actually be cheugy have learned about our new moniker.

If cheugy sounds hard to define, that's because it is. It has been likened to 'basic' – the insult made famous by Kate Moss when she hurled it at a female Easyjet pilot in 2015 and which refers to people whose tastes are a little too obvious, generic or mainstream, and while it's not as insulting, it's clearly not a compliment either.

"To me, cheugy is a lazy attitude," says Isaac Hindin-Miller, a New York-based DJ and fashion influencer who has over 61,000 followers on TikTok. "It's living your life paint-by-numbers-style, as dictated by Instagram. It's drinking Starbucks instead of literally anything else. It's Santal 33 by Le Labo. It's whatever the newest hype sneaker is. To avoid looking cheugy, develop your own personal style."

For the record, I quite like Santal 33, but I get what he means. A cheugy person is a late adopter when it comes to trends. Only slightly late, mind you, and interested in trends nonetheless. Other fashion items that have

been identified as cheugy include Ugg boots (which have, ironically, enjoyed a renaissance among supermodels like Gigi Hadid and Kaia Gerber lately), Golden Goose sneakers (a brand which pre-distresses its designs to make them look vintage), fedora hats, chevron stripes, initial pendant necklaces and tassel earrings. Even the seemingly inoffensive denim jacket has been identified as cheugy.

Use of the word is not just limited to TikTok. The Instagram handle @cheug-life documents examples of cheuginess and currently has over 31,000 followers. The caption for an image of a Gucci belt with a double-G logo buckle reads: "Overly branded designer stuff is cheugy. It started with those crazy tight long sleeves that read 'Abercrombie' across the chest and now you've graduated to Gucci belts and Chanel bags. Tread lightly my friends. Expensive does not equal chic."

To make matters more confusing, cheugy doesn't just refer to fashion items, either. It can apply to home-ware too – those light boxes or shabby-chic wooden signs bearing allegedly meaningful quotes like 'Live, Laugh, Love' are highly cheugy. Photos on social media can also be cheugy, such as engagement announcement shoots or a person posing in front of a pink wall.

Apparently even lasagne is cheugy, though it wouldn't stop a cheug-con-

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Style



scious TikTokker from eating it.

True to the warpspeed life-cycle of any viral trend, using the word cheugy has already been deemed cheugy itself. Of course, trying to keep up with what Gen-Z thinks is cool at any given moment in time is a fool's errand. The truth about the items that have been deemed cheugy is that they were once popular for a reason. I don't have a Gucci belt, but I do have a vintage handbag with the double-G logo that I use on a daily basis and I have no plans to stop. But if you're wondering what else would raise a teen or twenty-something's eyebrows, read on ...

Designer logos

Fashion is still riding the logomania wave – pretty much every brand has a heavily logo-ed garment on offer, and they're often best-selling items. The problem is that, worn too self-consciously, it can make a person look a little like they want to be seen as cool, and the moment you look like you're trying is the moment you stop being cool. A Fendi Baguette bag that looks like it's been taken to a few too many parties is far less cheugy than a brand new one.

Denim jackets

None of the Gen-Zers in my life can explain why the denim jacket is cheugy, it 'just is.' They're not averse to other classic fashion items, though – Birkenstocks and Levi's jeans are both sanctioned products according to Tik-Tok's tastemakers. Also on the safe list

are Converse and Superga sneakers, Barbour jackets, St. James Breton tops and Burberry trench coats. That said, Uggs don't make the cut, according to @cheuglife, which says of a pair of shearling slippers: "The 'stay at home' order should be in place for these babies indefinitely."

Statement sneakers

Anyone who has invested the \$300-plus on a pair of artfully distressed Golden Goose sneakers will be dismayed to learn that they have been dismissed as cheugy. The same applies to what Hindin-Miller calls "hype sneakers," which refers to any coveted, limited-edition trainer such as Kanye West's Yeezys for Adidas or Nike's collaboration with luxury streetwear brand Off-White.

Slogan T-shirts

Tops bearing phrases like 'Live, Laugh, Love' or 'But First, Coffee' scream cheug, so resist the temptation to buy slogan tees, sweatshirts and homeware. The phrase 'Girl-Boss' is particularly derided. "Friends," "Minions" or "Star Wars"-branded merchandise is also off-limits, so keep it simple and invest in plain garments instead.

Tassel earrings

Colorful and inexpensive to make, these flooded the high street a few years ago and became so ubiquitous, we've all probably got a pair somewhere. Also in the cheugy person's jewelry box are pendant necklaces with initial charms, and the silver 'Please Return to Tiffany' chain-link choker which @cheuglife captioned "more like 'please return to 2006.'" ■

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Style

TO DRESS YOUR AGE, OR NOT? THAT IS THE QUESTION...

BY ALEXANDRA ZAGALSKY
The Telegraph

Victoria Beckham made the headlines recently when she told Justin Bieber that she would "rather die" than wear the Crocs he sent her as a gift, a lilac pair embellished with cartoon themed badges. It may have been a playful snub, but when VB took to Instagram to post a picture of the shoes, she made no bones about her disapproval, claiming she'd sooner pop her clogs than wear the clogs.

If you ask me, she ought to have sent them to Britt Ekland who once declared she'd "rather kill herself than wear towering heels like Victoria Beckham day after day." Clearly there's something about 'bad' footwear that makes some celebrities want to shuffle off this mortal coil – the irony being that Crocs do tend to make you shuffle your feet, but I digress.

The point is, Crocs have always been divisive – you either love them or hate them. Personally I tend to avoid shoes with such a conspicuously wide fit.



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They really don't suit me. In fact, both Crocs and Birkenstock clogs make feel like I'm wearing jacket potatoes on my feet. But here's the thing: I did at least like the premise of Bieber's cartoonish slip-ons, because I naturally gravitate toward fun and silly things in fashion – not exclusively or excessively so, but enough to know I'm a sucker for a quirky purchase. In short, a slim-footed me would definitely wear Bieb's lilac Smurfette-style slingbacks, say on vacation or in the garden. They're just a bit of fun.

The question is, at the grand old age of (nearly) 45, should I wean myself off some of these fripperies? Maybe I should be more like Victoria Beckham and dra-



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Style



The classicist in me loves a crisp, well-curated look, but my teenage yearnings are strong: I'm drawn to ruffles, sparkly socks, bows and gingham, which I realize makes me sound like Little Bo Peep, but I don't mean all at once. There's a whole lot more, too. I have a weakness for Snoopy tees, pastel colored Converse, tulle skirts, cherry print (on anything) and tiny handbags; a current obsession being those itsy bitsy Jacquemus necklace totes, just about big enough to carry a dozen TicTacs or a single hit of Hubba Bubba.

When I take my 12-year-old daughter to accessories shop Claire's, she often has to drag me away from all the pearly, pompom delights, particularly the hair slides. I draw the line at butterflies and unicorns, but throw me a giant scrunchie and I'm Cyndi Lauper circa 1985.

It wasn't the Victoria Beckham Crocs comment that started the self-questioning. It was a recent splurge on broderie anglaise, which is everywhere at the moment from local stores to the luxury rails of Chloe, Celine and Valentino. I absolutely love the stuff – as a material it's coquettish, fresh and feminine, invariably crafted into some kind of frilled top or flouncy dress. In my 30s, I had a vintage tiered white mini-dress with flared sleeves made of broderie anglaise and I've been hooked ever since. And that's the problem, because I suspect I

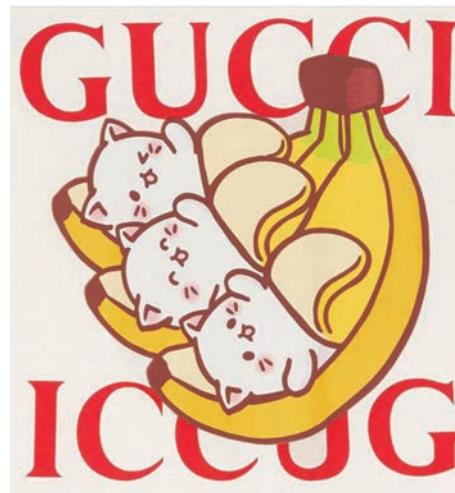
matically shun certain styles, not because I don't like them, but because they may not be age appropriate.

It pains me to even pen such a thing, because I like to think of myself as a libertarian, championing the idea that we should just wear whatever makes us happy, but I'd be lying if I said I'm not confused as I approach my (sort of) milestone birthday. Paradoxically, it could actually be my age: I can't help but wonder if my brain's hardwired to think that there's a 'correct' way to dress in your mid-40s and that for whatever reason, I'm clinging on to my past. This may well be a good thing, a youth-enhancing approach to dressing, you may say – and I agree, except sometimes I don't. All of a sudden, "the rules of dressing right for my age" have hijacked the free-spirited energy that hitherto shaped my style. What's going on?

might be stuck on that particular look.

I recently discovered a longer lime green version of this original at H&M, but when a good friend of mine innocently remarked that she "loved the fun doily look on me," I had a bit of a wakeup call. No longer was I channeling a cool Coachella vibe; I was wearing my nana's table cloth.

The same goes for Peter Pan collars, another great love of mine. To me these rounded necklines remind me of Jean Shrimpton's iconic modeling shots and Catherine Deneuve in "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" – an enduring marker of 1960s' sex kittenish glamour. But maybe retro 'girly girl' details such as these are aging. Is my Peter Pan collar suddenly indicative of Peter Pan syndrome? Maybe I should wear more cowl necks as my mother



She looks fabulous. But surely dressing 'young' in your twilight years is a whole different ballgame to dressing young in your 40s and 50s – the former is widely accepted as kooky, eccentric and inspiring, while the latter is often perceived as a kind of denial, like you're trapped in a fashion time warp.

Not so, argues Kat. The good cop/bad cop thing in your own head? Just get over it, is her advice, because it's cyclical, so best nip it in the bud. She has good reason to argue the case: She recently bought a pre-loved Off-White camo jacket, just because she liked the look of it, unaware of the brand's kudos among a younger generation of shoppers.

"Do you just love Baddiewinkle though?" asks my friend Kat when we touch on the subject of age-appropriate dressing. She's referring to Helen Ruth Elam, the 92-year-old Instagram sensation known for her wicked sense of style. For her latest selfie, the great-grandmother is wearing a baby blue boned corset with neon pink make-up.

And she's right. How can that be anything but a good thing? ■

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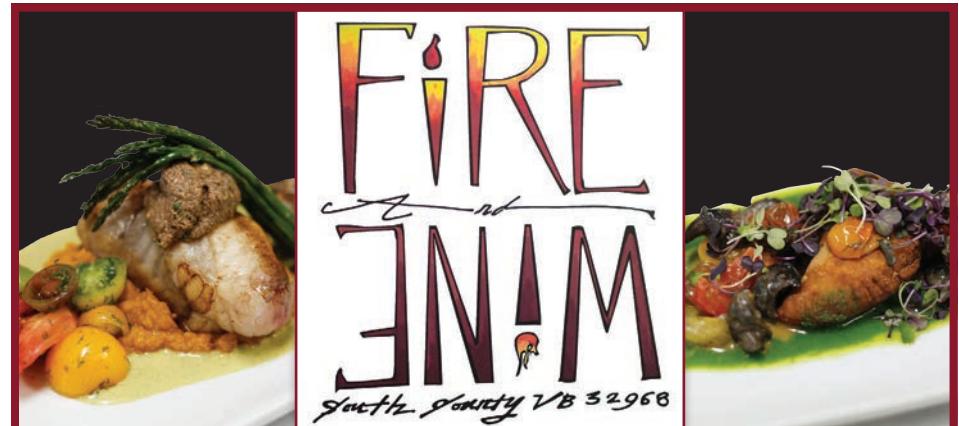
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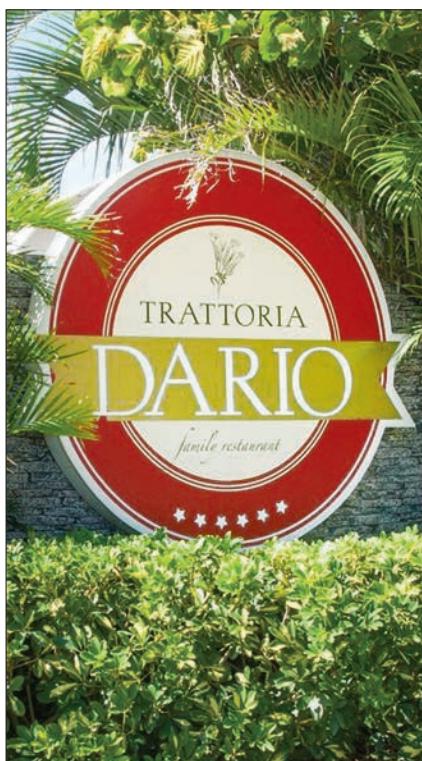
Thursday
Todd Jones - Guitar

Friday
Thomas Wesley Bowman - Guitar

Saturday
Mike LuBecke - Guitar

Sunday
Peter Valentine, Piano

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PETS



Hi Dog Buddies!

I always feel PRIV-leged when you poocheroos share your stories with me, an I ALWAYS learn something from every single one. This week's innerview was with a 12-year-old Mini-Poo, Scribbles Hepburn, who's had some super Dismal Dog Biscuits health ish-yews, but has the cheerful-est, happiest outlook ever. He's an ins-purr-RAY-shun.

Scribbles an his Mom, Adela, are Canadian, which means they're from a Totally Nother Country called CANADA. She's been coming here to visit her entire life, but Scribbles flew down with her for his very first trip last month. (He got to sit in his Mom's lap the whole way.)

They both greeted me an my assistant at the door, an Scribbles bounced right up for the Wag-an-Sniff. He had nice smiley brown eyes an black curly hair in a tidy summer cut, an he was carryin' a bright green chewy bone. It wasn't till after introductions, as we were gettin' all comf-tubble on the padio, that I realized – Scribbles had only three legs!

"I'm eager to hear your story," I told him, opening my dog-eared notebook. He curled up next to his Mom and began.

"In 2009, Mom was just a liddle kid in third grade an was feelin' Very, Very Gloomy. So her Grandmother Wendy wisely decided she should have a dog. She was Very Duh-terminated cuz she knew how happy a liddle grrrl anna puppy'd be growin' up together.

"My breeder was in Toronto and I was the last of my litter. Both my pooch parents were Show Dogs who wore fancy bows in their ears an knew how to Strut Their Stuff, but not me. I've always been just a happy-go-lucky kinda pooch. I like runnin' around an playin'. So Grandma Wendy bought me, an me an

Mom have been BFFs since Day One. Because I had PAY-pers an all, I had one of those long fancy names I don't even remember."

"I was wonderin' how you got your Cool Kibbles name," I told him.

"Well, when I was a real liddle pupper, just after Mom got me, I found a pen, an, like puppers do, I started chewin' it, an accidentally made a buncha marks on the floor, which humans call scribbles. So that's what Mom named me."

"Perfect!"

"Before I learned all the Rools, I usta enjoy flower pots. They were so in-TREE-ing! I'd nose 'em right over, dump all the flowers an dirt out. I was the only one who thought it was fun, tho. I also know a Trick: Our au pair taught me how to 'Donne la patte.'"

"Umm, what's that?" I asked.

"It's French for 'Give Paw.' See?"

He demonstrated, sitting first, so he wouldn't topple over.

"Cool Kibbles!" I said, with admiration.

"When we both were liddle puppers, Mom'd carry me around everywhere. She liked to dress me up, which was pretty fun. I have a cozy navy blue winter jacket that even covers my ears, which is a good thing cuz it's WAY colder in Canada than here. I 'specially like wearin' my colorful bow tie. I got to wear it when I was the Special Butler at Grandma Wendy's birthday party. I was a Big Hit! All the humans loved me. After all, I gotta admit, I was an extremely adorable pupper."

"Mom taught me how to swim off the liddle beach at our cottage in On-TARRY-oh. I had my own life jacket at first, till I mastered the Dog Paddle.



"What happened?" I asked.

"When Mom started goin' to school in Montreal this past Feb-you-wary I got to go with her, which was real exciting. But we had been there just a week when I had a Bad Accident an broke my leg (the vet calls it a FEE-murr), an that's why I just have three now, instead of the usual four."

"Oh, Woof! Scribbles! That's Seriously Soggy Biscuits! But I didn't even notice it at first!"

"A dog's gotta do what a dog's gotta do," he said cheerfully. "I never want Mom to feel sad, an I got the 3-legs thing figured out pretty fast. I also found out I have a duh-ZEES, but, you know, Bonzo, I feel fine right now, an I have the Best Mom EVER, an a very fun life, with a Famly, an frens an toys an snacks. So that makes me a Very Lucky Dog!"

Heading home, I was thinking about Scribbles' wonderful Attitude, an the way he enjoys every minute like it was a duh-li-shus liddle snack. An how his joyful duh-mean-er makes other pooches an humans feel happy, too. I reminded myself that all us pooches have the upper-TOO-nutty to do the same thing.

The BONZ 

Don't Be Shy

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ARTIST GALLERIES

Hours are as noted and/or by appointment.

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Website: jmstringergallery.com

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3349 Ocean Drive, Suite 8, 2nd Floor.

772-579-7667

Website: oceandrivegalleryverobeach.com

Hours: 1 to 4 p.m. Wed. to Sat.

Gallery Artists: Elise Geary, Andrea Lazar, Gail Fay-

erweather, Cree Scudder and Sherrie Petermann

Palm House Gallery & Studio

3227 Ocean Drive (2nd floor). 772-231-6816

Website: palmhousegallery.com

Gallery Artists: Wendy Douglas, Dede Gilbert,

Rick Kelly, Madeline Long, Suzy Mellott, Jack

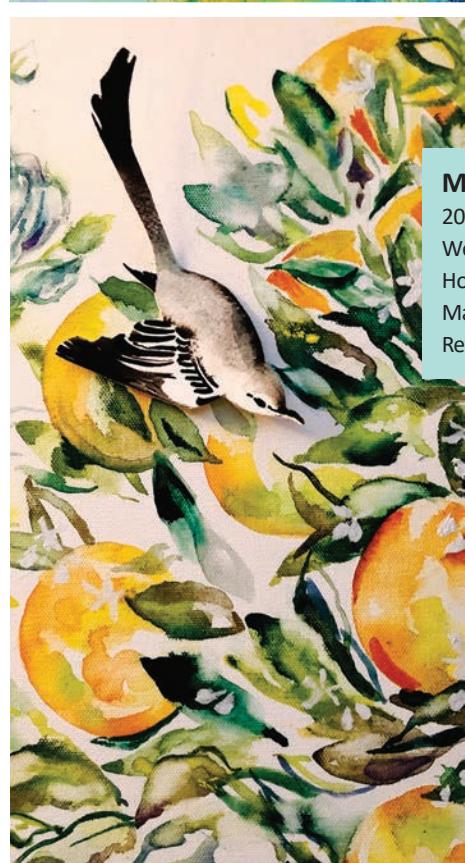
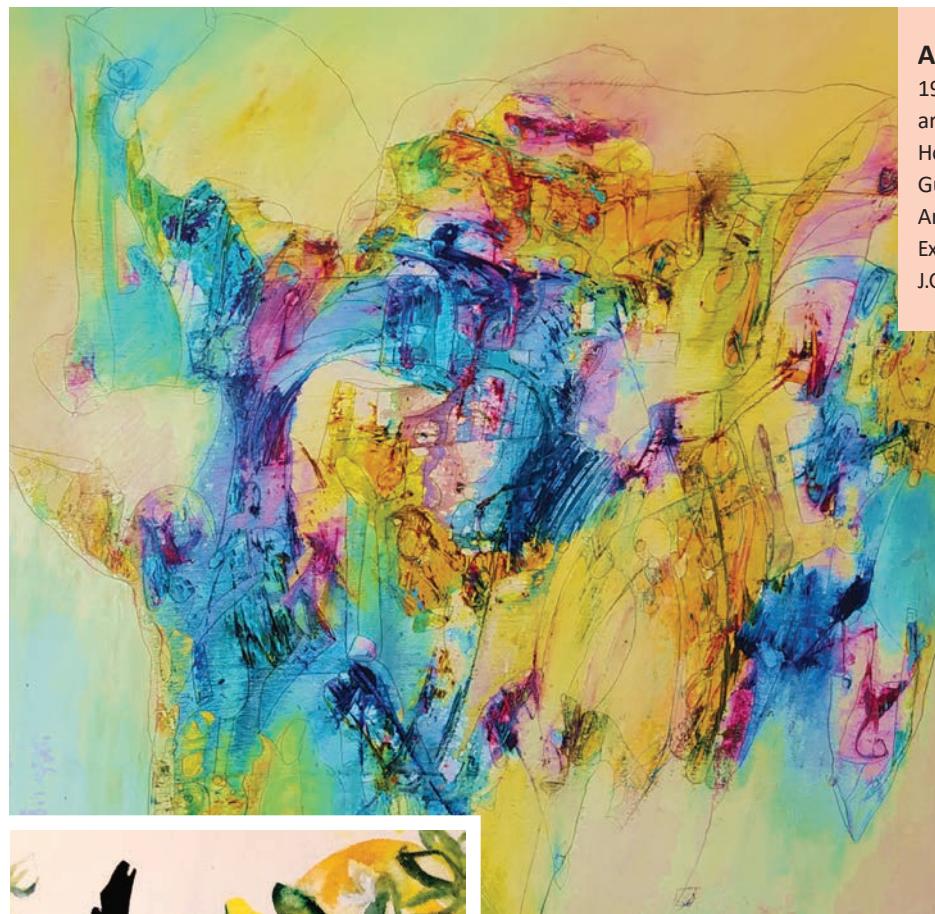
Staley, Barbara Tiffany and Emily Tremml

Steve Diossy Marine Art Gallery

3247 Ocean Drive. 772-205 2973

Website: stevediossy.com

Hours: Noon to 6 p.m. Mon., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Main Street Vero Beach Studios & Gallery

2036 14th Avenue, Suite 103. 772-643-6782

Website: mainstreetverobeach.org

Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

May Guest Artist: Xaque Gruber, Earth's Natural Gifts

Resident Artists: Barbara Sharp & Clair Brunetti

Tues. and Wed., to 7 p.m. Thurs. and Fri., 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat., and noon to 5 p.m. Sun.
Artwork by the designer of Florida's 'Protect Wild Dolphins' license plates

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Gallery Strolls

Raw Space

1795 Old Dixie Hwy. 772-410-9126

Website: artconceptualternative.org

Hours: 3 to 6 p.m. Wed. to Fri.; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat.

April Exhibit: 3 Steps Forward – 2 Steps Back:
Racial Justice

Artist Bungalow

1905 14th Avenue. 772-205-7631

artistbungalow.com

Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tues., Thurs. and Fri.

Guest Artist: Lorrie Kelly, Abstract Acrylics

Artists/Owners: Jeff and Patti Hall

Exhibiting Artists: Amy Grabel, Keila Martin, Saskia Fuller, J.G. Textiles, Mike Roe, Donald Shirreff and Randy Singleton

Artists Guild Gallery

1974 14th Avenue. 772-299-1234

Website: artistsguildgalleryofverobeach.com

Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tues. to Fri., and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. monthly on first Sat.

Artist Owners: Sue Dinenno, Annette Gekle, Barbara Glover, Sherry Haaland, Judy Mercer, Dawn Mill, Patricia Padoll, Judy Rixom, Fran San Miguel and Rita Ziegler.

Associate Artists: Johnson Hagood and Mimmo Amelio

Gallery 14

1911 14th Avenue. 772-562-5525

Website: gallery14verobeach.com

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues. to Fri.; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat.

May Guest Artist: Digital Art by Rhett Palmer

Partner Artists: Lila Blakeslee, Barbara du Pont, Beth-Anne Fairchild, Mary Ann Hall, Barbara Landry, George Pillorgé, Deborah Morrell Polackwich and Dorothy Napp Schindel

Vero Beach Art Club Annex & Gallery

1903 14th Avenue. 772-217-3345

Website: verobeachartclub.org

Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tues. to Sat.

May Exhibit: Inspired by 2020 Pandemic Exhibit

GALLERIES ELSEWHERE

Barbara Krupp Fine Art Studio/Gallery

4315 U.S. 1. 440-574-4662

Website: barbarakrupp.com

Resident Artist: Barbara Krupp, original acrylic paintings

The Rowe Gallery

46 Royal Palm Pointe. 302-521-4175

Website: therowegallery.com

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thurs., to 6 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sun.

Resident Artist: Lori Rowe, contemporary impressionism, and realism



First Presbyterian Church

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May 23, 2021 (Pentecost)

"Restoring Big Dreams" • Acts 2:1-21

Rev. Dr. Timothy Womack

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SUNDAY
May 23rd

This week's sermon:
"Game Changer"
by Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland

Chapel Service (In-person Only) at 8:30 am.
Sanctuary Worship (In-person & Livestream) at 10:15 am.
C² Worship (Livestream Only) at 8:30 am.



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CALENDAR

MAY

22 Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Special Equestrians of the Treasure Coast, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start at Gator Trace

Golf Club. Individual \$125; foursome \$400. speequestranstreasurecoast.org

22 to Sept. 5 – Vero Beach Museum of Art exhibition, A Tribute to Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Selections from the Tom

Golden Collection, organized by the Museum of Sonoma County, spanning 37 years of the artists' career. 772-231-0707

23 Fan Favorites Part III presented by Space Coast Symphony Orchestra,

3 p.m. at Vero Beach High School PAC, joined by Jacob Craig performing three beloved works for piano and orchestra, and advanced level Space Coast Symphony Youth Orchestra members performing alongside their SCSO counterparts playing popular works by much-admired composers. 855-252-7276 or SpaceCoastSymphony.org.

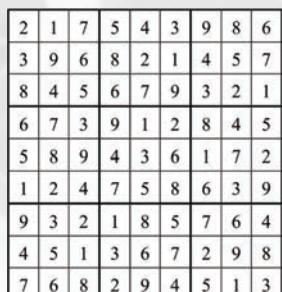
30 Double Bass Recital, 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, featuring Desmond Rogers, a graduate of IR Charter High School, set to graduate in May from the University of Miami Frost School of Music, accompanied by Jacob Craig, director of music at First Presbyterian. \$10 donation suggested. 772-562-9088

31 Memorial Day Observation Ceremony, 9 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Solutions from Games Pages in May 13, 2021 Edition



Sudoku Page 36



Sudoku Page 37

ACROSS
 1 CLIMB
 4 AXIS
 8 TRELLIS
 9 STEER
 10 HERON
 11 ETERNAL
 13 CLARET
 15 PIMPLE
 17 AUSTERE
 20 BONUS
 22 CIDER
 23 BLIGHTY
 24 SHOW
 25 FURZE

DOWN
 1 CATCH
 2 ICECREAMSODA
 3 BALANCE
 4 AISLE
 5 ISSUE
 6 PENNYPINCHER
 7 GRILLE
 12 TIP
 13 CHANCE
 14 TOR
 16 INBRIEF
 18 EARTH
 19 ELBOW
 21 STYLE



Crossword Page 36



Crossword Page 37 (SANTA'S HEADACHES)

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REAL ESTATE

Silver Sands home features fine design and precious privacy



BY STEPHANIE LABAFF
Staff Writer

At the end of an intimate, single-street neighborhood, the two-story oceanfront home at 2270 Silver Sands Court in Silver Sands was a place of healing for the owner who moved to Vero Beach to take advantage of the ocean air and sunshine.

She says she knew that this house was the perfect place for her to recover from a serious lung problem but had to get her sidekick's – a German short-

haired pointer – seal of approval before buying the four-bedroom home.

It was love at first sight. "He ran in the house, up the stairs and then outside. That dog was so happy to be back on the beach. That's when I knew for sure that this was the house," recalls the owner.

And for the past 10 years, it's been just what the doctor ordered. "I needed a break and to unwind and recover my health. It was the perfect place to do it," she adds, noting the serenity of the small neighborhood, as well as its

privacy and the benefits of living on the ocean.

As you pull into the driveway at the end of the cul-de-sac, you feel as if the lush vegetation is drawing you into a tropical haven. With coral stone surrounding the front entry, you can already sense the beachy elegance that awaits inside.

Fine details imbue the home with a sense of classic design, from the crown molding and wood and stone flooring to the custom built-ins and mosaic backsplash.

The gallery foyer opens directly into the formal living room with spectacular views of the ocean. To the right is a first-floor owner's suite, allowing the homeowner to age in place or provide a sanctuary for visiting guests who can't navigate the stairs.

Heading down the hallway to the left of the front entrance and at the front of the house, you'll find a fitness room with an infrared sauna, cork floors and mirrored wall; a laundry room; a powder room; two guest bed-

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REAL ESTATE



rooms with private entries and a Jack and Jill bathroom; and access to the air-conditioned two-car garage.

At the rear of this wing, the dining room is situated between the living room and gourmet kitchen with a walk-in pantry, wine cooler, and a

A pass-thru opens things up so that you can enjoy the company of guests while they sit by the fire or head out to the patio through French doors.

The upper-level owner's living space is reached via stairs near the center of the house. A wall of built-ins



breakfast nook with built-in benches, allowing for fluid movement from room to room and out onto the lanai when entertaining.

A family room with a wood-burning fireplace boasting a coral-stone face sits on the north side of the kitchen.

runs along the landing between the owner's suite and office. Both rooms enjoy ocean views from private balconies.

Unique design features include a wood-burning fireplace in the office to keep you warm as you work or en-



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REAL ESTATE

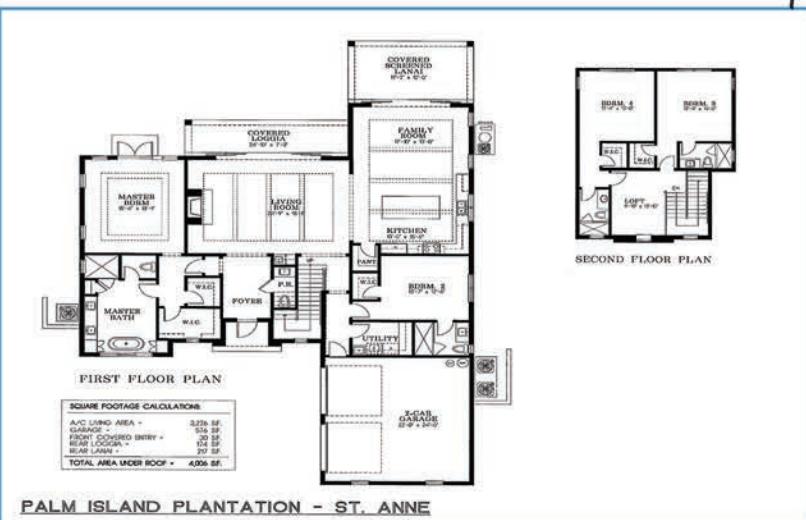


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joy a brandy before heading to bed, and a substantial jetted tub in the bathroom just off the owner's suite with views of the ocean. The owner's private domain also includes a shower, dual sinks, water closet and walk-in closet.

The owner created a spectacular oasis when she bought the house, making the most of the private, oceanfront locale. A screen enclosure keeps bugs at bay while you're floating in the saltwater pool, sitting in the hot tub or taking in the ocean breezes from one of the covered seating areas.

To the already impressive lounge

VITAL STATISTICS
2270 SILVER SANDS COURT

Neighborhood: Silver Sands
Year built: 1987 with extensive renovations in 2005

Construction:
Frame with siding

Lot size: 112 feet by 323 feet
Home size: 4,029 square feet

Bedrooms: 4

Bathrooms: 3 full baths and 1 half-bath

Pool: Saltwater swimming pool with hot tub

View: 180-degree ocean view

Additional features: Miele cooktop and wall oven; Sub-Zero refrigerator; whole house water filtration system; wine cooler; 2 wood-burning fireplaces; crown molding; granite counters; stone flooring; upper and lower owner's suites; office; gym; air-conditioned, two-car garage; pavilion; outdoor fireplace; summer kitchen and bar; impact windows and doors; shutters; recently replaced metal roof and air conditioners, and private dune walkover

Listing agency:
Premier Estate Properties

Listing agents:
Cindy O'Dare, 772-713-5899,
and Richard Boga, 772-559-4800

Listing price: \$3,895,000

REAL ESTATE



living in this secluded area is having a front-row seat for turtle season. She went to great lengths to ensure lights wouldn't interfere with the turtles that nest on the beach. "Every single year, there are always multiple turtle nests with hatchlings," she says.

"Vero is such a rare, special place. I just don't know where in Florida



you can go and feel like you have the entire beach to yourself," adds the owner, who says she's moving to be closer to family and friends. "This is a great house for a family; and now that I've healed, a part of me feels guilty because I felt like I wasn't using the house to its best potential."

Silver Sands is a small, gated neighborhood just a short drive away from Vero's Ocean Drive for shopping and dining, or to Riverside Theatre and the Vero Beach Museum of Art for cultural outings. For families with children, Saint Edward's School is nearby. ■



oaks that block views of the backyard from passersby on the beach, the sense of seclusion is complete.

One of the owner's favorite parts of



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Kelly is passionate about helping his clients live their dreams, not dream their lives. Kelly can be reached at **772.404.2314** or **Kelly@DaleyAndCompany.com**

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REAL ESTATE

Real Estate Sales on the Barrier Island: May 7 to May 13



The second week of May saw the island real estate market turn in another strong performance, with 34 transactions closing, including six for more than \$2 million.

The top sale of the week was of an oceanfront residence in Floralton Beach. The home at 700 Reef Road was placed on the market Feb. 12, 2017 for \$7.5 million. The asking price more recently was \$7.25 million. The sale closed on May 11 for \$7.5 million.

The seller in the transaction was represented by Erika Ross of The Moorings Realty Sales Co. The purchaser was represented by Fredi Ash and Christine Barry of ONE Sotheby's International Realty.

SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES AND LOTS

SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	MOST RECENT ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
CASTAWAY COVE	1060 CRESCENT BEACH RD	3/31/2021	\$4,195,000	\$4,195,000	5/10/2021	\$3,865,000
EAST END	1035 GAYFEATHER LN	3/9/2021	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	5/11/2021	\$3,500,000
RIOMAR	986 RIOMAR DR	3/9/2021	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000	5/7/2021	\$3,462,000
ESTUARY THE	265 ESTUARY DR	1/25/2021	\$2,200,000	\$2,150,000	5/12/2021	\$1,975,000
VERO BEACH ESTATES	775 BOUGAINVILLEA LN	2/5/2021	\$1,875,000	\$1,875,000	5/10/2021	\$1,875,000
SUMMERPLACE	9460 DOUBLOON DR	12/11/2020	\$1,850,000	\$1,795,000	5/7/2021	\$1,700,000
PALM ISL PLANTATION	241 PALM ISLAND LN	1/20/2021	\$1,473,000	\$1,515,000	5/12/2021	\$1,515,000
INDIAN TRAILS	471 N ARROWHEAD TRL	1/22/2021	\$1,600,000	\$1,500,000	5/11/2021	\$1,400,000
SANDPOINTE	1626 W SANDPOINTE LN	3/29/2021	\$995,000	\$995,000	5/7/2021	\$960,000
BERMUDA BAY	620 SABLE OAK LN	4/12/2021	\$995,000	\$995,000	5/11/2021	\$940,000
SEAGROVE	1755 PELICAN WAY	3/2/2021	\$865,000	\$865,000	5/12/2021	\$860,000
ESTUARY THE	120 ISLAND COTTAGE LN	3/11/2021	\$795,000	\$795,000	5/12/2021	\$825,000

TOWNHOMES, VILLAS, CONDOS, MULTIFAMILY AND INVESTMENT

ORCHID ISLAND	20 BEACHSIDE DR, #302	2/19/2021	\$2,450,000	\$2,450,000	5/7/2021	\$2,470,000
ORCHID ISLAND	10 BEACHSIDE DR, #201	1/6/2021	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	5/10/2021	\$2,000,000
ORCHID ISLAND	60 BEACHSIDE DR, #201	2/13/2021	\$1,495,000	\$1,495,000	5/7/2021	\$1,440,000
SOUTHWINDS	2245 N SOUTHWINDS BLVD, #301	9/10/2020	\$1,495,000	\$1,375,000	5/12/2021	\$1,375,000
SOUTHWINDS	1250 W SOUTHWINDS BLVD, #216	2/26/2021	\$1,250,000	\$1,150,000	5/7/2021	\$1,060,000
BEACH VILLAS AT SEA	8824 S SEA OAKS WAY, #101	4/26/2021	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	5/7/2021	\$1,015,000
RIVER CLUB AT CARLTON	801 N SWIM CLUB DR, #2B	3/1/2020	\$995,000	\$995,000	5/10/2021	\$995,000
SEA OAKS	8870 N. SEA OAKS WAY, #306	3/24/2021	\$975,000	\$975,000	5/10/2021	\$975,000
VILLAGE SPIRES DEVEL	3554 OCEAN DR, #804N	3/29/2021	\$998,000	\$949,000	5/12/2021	\$950,000

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REAL ESTATE

Here are some of the top recent barrier island sales.

Subdivision: East End, Address: 1035 Gayfeather Ln

Listing Date: 3/9/2021
Original Price: \$3,500,000
Recent Price: \$3,500,000
Sold: 5/11/2021
Selling Price: \$3,500,000
Listing Agent: Jonathan Sternberg
RE/MAX Associated Realty

Selling Agent: Dan Downey & Anne Wallace
Berkshire Hathaway Florida

Subdivision: Castaway Cove, Address: 1060 Crescent Beach Rd

Listing Date: 3/31/2021
Original Price: \$4,195,000
Recent Price: \$4,195,000
Sold: 5/10/2021
Selling Price: \$3,865,000
Listing Agent: Cindy O'Dare & Richard Boga
Premier Estate Properties

Selling Agent: Cindy O'Dare & Kristin Dobson
Premier Estate Properties

Subdivision: Riomar, Address: 986 Riomar Dr

Listing Date: 3/9/2021
Original Price: \$3,250,000
Recent Price: \$3,250,000
Sold: 5/7/2021
Selling Price: \$3,462,000
Listing Agent: Joan Cook
Dale Sorenson Real Estate Inc.

Selling Agent: Cindy O'Dare
Premier Estate Properties

Subdivision: Orchid Island, Address: 20 Beachside Dr, #302

Listing Date: 2/19/2021
Original Price: \$2,450,000
Recent Price: \$2,450,000
Sold: 5/7/2021
Selling Price: \$2,470,000
Listing Agent: Anne Torline & Heidi Levy
Orchid Island Realty

Selling Agent: Not Provided
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Here are some of the top recent barrier island sales.

Subdivision: Estuary The, Address: 265 Estuary Dr



Listing Date: 1/25/2021
Original Price: \$2,200,000
Recent Price: \$2,150,000
Sold: 5/12/2021
Selling Price: \$1,975,000
Listing Agent: Christine Hughes
Dale Sorensen Real Estate Inc.
Selling Agent: Fredi Ash
ONE Sotheby's Int'l Realty

Subdivision: Vero Beach Estates, Address: 775 Bougainvillea Ln



Listing Date: 2/5/2021
Original Price: \$1,875,000
Recent Price: \$1,875,000
Sold: 5/10/2021
Selling Price: \$1,875,000
Listing Agent: Dan Downey & Anne Wallace
Berkshire Hathaway Florida
Selling Agent: Cathy Curley
Dale Sorensen Real Estate Inc.

Subdivision: Summerplace, Address: 9460 Doubloon Dr



Listing Date: 12/11/2020
Original Price: \$1,850,000
Recent Price: \$1,795,000
Sold: 5/7/2021
Selling Price: \$1,700,000
Listing Agent: Janyne Kenworthy
ONE Sotheby's Int'l Realty
Selling Agent: Janyne Kenworthy
ONE Sotheby's Int'l Realty

Subdivision: Orchid Island, Address: 10 Beachside Dr, #201



Listing Date: 1/6/2021
Original Price: \$2,200,000
Recent Price: \$2,200,000
Sold: 5/10/2021
Selling Price: \$2,000,000
Listing Agent: Bob Niederpruem
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Selling Agent: Kevin Brady
Dale Sorensen Real Estate Inc.

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REAL ESTATE

Mortgage rates lower once again, but that may not last

BY KATHY ORTON
The Washington Post

Mortgage rates fell for the second week in a row, but their decline may be short-lived.

According to the latest data released last Thursday by Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed-rate average slipped to 2.94 percent with an average 0.7 point. (Points are fees paid to a lender equal to 1 percent of the loan amount. They are in addition to the interest rate.) It was 2.96 percent two weeks ago and 3.28 percent a year ago.

Freddie Mac, the federally chartered mortgage investor, aggregates rates from around 80 lenders across the country to come up with weekly national averages. It uses rates for high-quality borrowers with strong credit scores and large down payments. Because of the criteria, these rates are not available to every borrower.

The survey is based on home purchase mortgages, which means rates for refinances may be higher. The price adjustment for refinance transactions that went into effect in December is adding to the cost. The adjustment, which applies to all Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac refinances, is 0.5 percent of the loan amount. That works out to \$1,500 on a \$300,000 loan.

The 15-year fixed-rate average dropped to 2.26 percent with an average 0.6 point. It was 2.3 percent two weeks ago and 2.72 percent a year ago. The five-year adjustable rate average tumbled to 2.59 percent with an average 0.3 point. It was 2.7 percent two weeks ago and 3.18 percent a year ago.

"Since the most recent peak in April, mortgage rates have declined nearly a quarter of a percent and have remained under three percent for the past month," Sam Khater, chief economist at Freddie Mac, said in a statement. "The low mortgage rate environment has been a boon to the housing market but may not last long as consumer inflation has accelerated at its fastest pace in more than twelve years and may lead to higher mortgage rates in the summer."

A weaker-than-expected jobs report for April is likely to have caused mortgage rates to move lower. However, that report was followed closely by a spike in consumer prices. The Labor Department's consumer price index jumped 4.2 percent. That was enough to cause bond yields to rise, but too late in the week to be factored into Freddie Mac's survey.

Meanwhile, the yield on the 10-

year Treasury hit its highest level in a month last week, rising to 1.69 percent last Wednesday. Yields are inversely related to price. When prices drop, yields rise.

Investors have been shedding bonds, causing prices to fall, because they fear inflation. Inflation is the scourge of bonds because it erodes the value of future payments. Investors usually sell Treasurys when they

believe the economy is heating up and inflation is growing.

"Investors had plenty of bond supply to choose from this week, and inflation data showed a huge pick-up in prices," said Danielle Hale, chief economist at Realtor.com. "Although an increase was expected, core inflation, which excludes relatively volatile food and energy prices, saw its biggest one-month surge

in 39 years. The last time inflation surged this high in one month, Freddie Mac's 30-year mortgage rate was 16.9 percent. While I don't expect double-digit mortgage rates any time soon, I do expect mortgage rates to follow Treasury yields higher as the combination of abundant supply and concerns about inflation, mean that investors expect higher returns." ■



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